BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
VOL. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#1
OF 8
COVER A
aspencomics.com

BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
VOL. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#1
OF 8
COVER B
aspencomics.com

BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
VOL. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#1
OF 8
COVER C
GUNDERSON
aspencomics.com

From beneath the tides she was born...

Above the sea level she was raised...

On the surface, she is a marine biologist...

Yet, under the surface she is something far more. She is something...ELITE.

ASPEN COMICS PRESENTS:

All New Fathom

PART 1 of 8

Blake Northcott
writer

Marco Renna
pencils

Mark Roslan
digital inks

John Starr
colors

Zen
letters

Vince Hernandez, Gabe Carrasco —*editors*

Mark Roslan, Peter Steigerwald, Gabe Carrasco —*design & production*

A
Direct Edition
by - Marco Renna
& - John Starr

B
Direct Edition
by - Alex Konat
& - Peter Steigerwald

C
Direct Edition
by - Jordan Gunderson
& - John Starr

D
Retailer Incentive Edition
by - Talent Caldwell
& - Peter Steigerwald

E
Limited Retailer
Incentive Edition
by - Michael Turner
& - Peter Steigerwald

F
Aspen YOU-niverse Box
Exclusive Limited Edition of 150
www.AspenStore.com
by - Michael Turner
& - Jon Sibal

G
Rupp's Comics Exclusive
Limited Edition of 200
www.RuppsWorld.com
by - Keu Cha
& - Peter Steigerwald

H
Rupp's Comics Exclusive
Limited B&W Edition of 100
www.RuppsWorld.com
by - Keu Cha

FATHOM CREATED BY MICHAEL TURNER

For Aspen: Founder: Michael Turner Co-Owner: Peter Steigerwald Co-Owner/President: Frank Mastromauro
Vice President/Editor in Chief: Vince Hernandez Vice President/Design and Production: Mark Roslan
Editorial Assistant: Gabe Carrasco Office Manager: Megan Madrigal AspenStore.com: Chris Rupp

ALL NEW MICHAEL TURNER'S FATHOM™ Vol. 6 Issue 1 FEBRUARY 2017. DIGITAL COPY.

Published by Aspen MLT, Inc., Office of Publication: 5701 W. Slauson Ave. Suite. 120, Culver City, CA 90230. The Aspen MLT, Inc. logo® is a registered trademark of Aspen MLT, Inc. All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ and the All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ logo, are the trademarks of Aspen MLT, Inc. The entire contents of this book, all artwork, characters and their likenesses are © 2017 Aspen MLT, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Any similarities between names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with persons living or dead or institutions is unintended and is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this book may be reprinted, reproduced or transmitted by any means or in any form without the express written consent of Aspen MLT, Inc.

Visit us on the web at WWW.ASPENCOMICS.COM
Find us on Facebook at FACEBOOK.COM/ASPENCOMICS
Follow us on Twitter at TWITTER.COM/ASPENCOMICS
For more Aspen Comics go to WWW.ASPENSTORE.COM

For the comics retailer nearest you call: 1888-COMIC-BOOK » International Rights Representative: Christine Meyer (christine@gfloystudio.com)

SO YOU GOT PUNCHED IN THE FACE BY GOD?
NO, DON'T BE SILLY. HE SAID HE WAS A GOD, NOT THE GOD. AND THERE WAS NO WAY OF KNOWING WHO HE WAS...IT'S NOT LIKE I HAD TIME TO ASK FOR A BUSINESS CARD BEFORE HE WENT INTO BEAST MODE.
OKAY, SO THIS NOT-SO-GODLIKE GUY WITH DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR--
--WEARING AN ARMORED BANANA HAMMOCK.
WEARING A...? OKAY, SO THIS AQUATIC MAGIC MIKE THROWS AN UPPERCUT, HARD ENOUGH TO LAUNCH YOU SIX HUNDRED FEET, BREAKING THROUGH TO THE SURFACE? AM I GETTING THIS RIGHT?
YUP. BIT MY TONGUE, TOO.
OUCH.
OH, AND THAT WAS BEFORE THE BUILDING COLLAPSE.
THE WHAT?! YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BACK UP A LITTLE, SWEETIE. I'M TOTALLY LOST.
SORRY, TYLER-- MY BRAIN IS STILL SCRAMBLED. I FEEL A LITTLE CONCUSSED AND I'M NOT THE BEST STORYTELLER RIGHT NOW.
IT ALL STARTED AT THE BEACH...

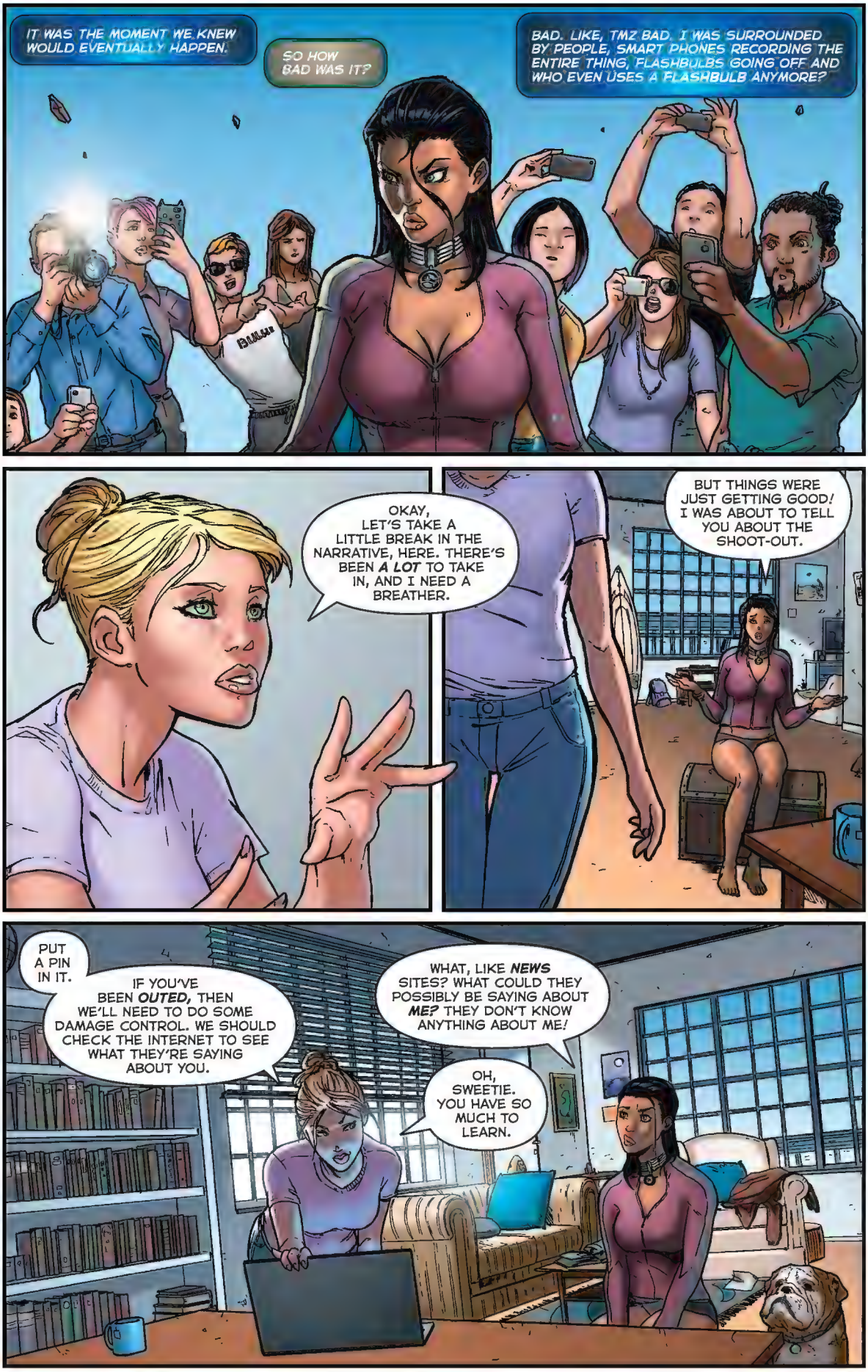
I WAS HEADING OUT TO CATCH SOME WAVES WHEN THE TEXT CAME IN.
CHIRP
HEH.
Chance <3
Hey babe! I'm doing a flyover about 200 miles off the coast, and our sonobuoys are picking up some strange acoustics.
At first I thought it might be a foreign sub sneaking a little too close to our shore, but I triangulated the source: it's coming from inside a sinkhole!
The one by the oil tanker wreckage?
Chance <3
Some new tech maybe? Spy equipment? Or a weapon?
Stop replying with emojis. You're not a teenage girl.
SO YOUR JOKER OF A BOYFRIEND SENDS YOU INTO A DARK SINKHOLE TO INVESTIGATE A STRANGE NOISE? ISN'T THAT LIKE HORROR MOVIE RULE NUMBER ONE: DON'T INVESTIGATE STRANGE NOISES?
I TOLD HIM TO ALWAYS CALL IF HE FINDS SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS. I'D RATHER GO POKING AROUND IN THE DARK THAN HAVE HIM SHOOT A MISSILE INTO IT.

AND BESIDES, THERE ISN'T MUCH DOWN THERE THAT SURPRISES ME ANYMORE.
THE DEPRESSION WAS ORGANIC, JUDGING BY THE EROSION. THE DARKNESS AND POOR CIRCULATION MAKE IT UNINHABITABLE FOR ANYTHING BUT BACTERIA-- EVEN THE HAMMERHEADS STAY NEAR THE SHALLOWS.
BECAUSE OF THE BAROMETRIC PRESSURE, I WASN'T EXPECTING TO FIND ANYTHING ALIVE. ANY DIVER WOULD SUFFER HYPOXIA BEFORE THEY GOT ANYWHERE NEAR THOSE DEPTHS ...AND THAT'S WHERE I FOUND THE CAVE.
I FOLLOWED A LIGHT ALL THE WAY TO THE BOTTOM AND SWAM INSIDE. THERE WAS AN AIR POCKET.
AN AIR POCKET ...SIX HUNDRED FEET BENEATH THE SURFACE?
CRAZY, RIGHT? IT DIDN'T MAKE SENSE. I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT-- AT LEAST NOT IN NATURE.
THE CAVE OPENED TO A PAIR OF DOORS. THEY WERE MASSIVE, FORGED FROM LIMESTONE, AND INSET WITH SOME KIND OF SYMBOL.
IT WAS STRANGELY FAMILIAR-- ANCIENT, BUT DEFINITELY NATIVE TO MY PEOPLE. LIKE SOME LONG-FORGOTTEN LANGUAGE, OR A HIEROGLYPH.
SO THE BLUE PUT IT THERE?
MAYBE. I CAN'T BE SURE. BUT THERE WAS JUST SOMETHING ABOUT IT...
DRAWING ME TOWARDS IT.
I ACCIDENTALLY ACTIVATED SOMETHING.

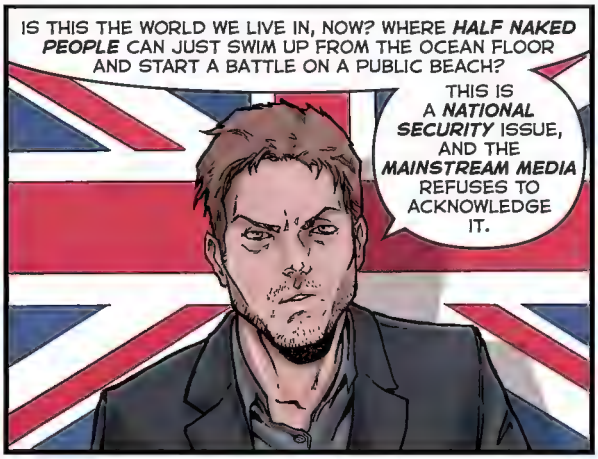
THAT'S WHEN I SAW HIM.
THE BANANA HAMMOCK?
YUP. AND HE WAS LOOKING FOR ME.
ARE YOU SURE?
PRETTY SURE.
WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU.
HEY. I'M ASPEN MATTHEWS. AND YOU ARE?
SILENCE. YOU WILL NOT ADDRESS US SO INFORMALLY.
YOU ARE ONE OF THE BLUE, YET YOU REEK OF THE SURFACE DWELLERS AND SPEAK IN THEIR PRIMITIVE TONGUE.
WAIT, ARE YOU LOST? DO YOU NEED HELP GETTING BACK TO ONE OF THE--
YOU ARE THE ONE WHO IS LOST, SURFACE DWELLER. THIS IS OUR DOMAIN. WE ARE THE HEIRS TO THESE WATERS. TO ALL WATERS. AND YOU CAN NO LONGER HOLD US CAPTIVE.
WHAT WAS WITH ALL THE 'WE' AND 'US' STUFF? WAS HE TALKING ABOUT THE 'ROYAL WE'?
NO IDEA. BUT THAT WAS PROBABLY THE LEAST INSANE THING HE SAID.
IT GETS WORSE?
SO MUCH WORSE.
I'M PRETTY SURE THE PACIFIC OCEAN IS EVERYONE'S DOMAIN. AND WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?
TO YOU, I AM A GOD.
IF YOU'RE A GOD HOW DID YOU GET THAT SCAR OVER YOUR EYE? I THOUGHT GODS WERE ALL INVULNERABLE? AND WHY ARE YOU--
I SAID SILENCE!
PRO TIP: NEVER QUESTION THE LOGIC OF A SELF-PROCLAIMED GOD. I GET THE IMPRESSION THEY'RE NOT THE MOST MENTALLY STABLE BUNCH.

SO HE PUNCHED YOU UP THROUGH THE CAVE, OUT OF THE WATER, AND THEN YOU'RE ON THE SURFACE...
OH, RIGHT–SO WE'RE BATTLING ON THE WAVES AND WE EXCHANGE SOME OF THE NORMAL SUPERHERO BANTER, BUT WITH A FEW MORE EXPLETIVES THAN USUAL.
YOUR TIME IS OVER! YOU HAVE RULED THESE WATERS FOR FAR TOO LONG. IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO CEDE CONTROL, AND ALLOW THE RIGHTFUL GENERATION TO TAKE OUR PROPER PLACE.
I'VE BEEN HERE TOO LONG? HOW #*$%ING OLD DO YOU THINK I AM?
WHOA, SAILOR! YOU KISS YOUR MOTHER WITH THAT MOUTH?
CHK
WHAT CAN I SAY? I GET A LITTLE SALTY WHEN THE KARKRAH BLASTS START FLYING.
SO, HE COULD CONTROL WATER, JUST LIKE YOU?
SHIINNGG
YEAH, AND THAT'S THE STRANGE PART:
I DON'T THINK HE WAS ONE OF THE BLUE, BUT HE HAD SOME OF OUR ELITE BLUE POWERS.
HIS GLAIVE MISSED ME, BUT IT NICKED MY ARM ON THE WAY BY. IT CUT ME. I CHANGED MY DENSITY AS IT APPROACHED, SO IT SHOULD HAVE PASSED RIGHT THROUGH.
YIKES.
THE TIDE HAD PICKED UP, AND AS WE FOUGHT THE WAVES HAD CARRIED US A LOT CLOSER TO THE BEACH THAN I REALIZED.

BOOM
BAR
CRASH
SMASH
FWOOSH

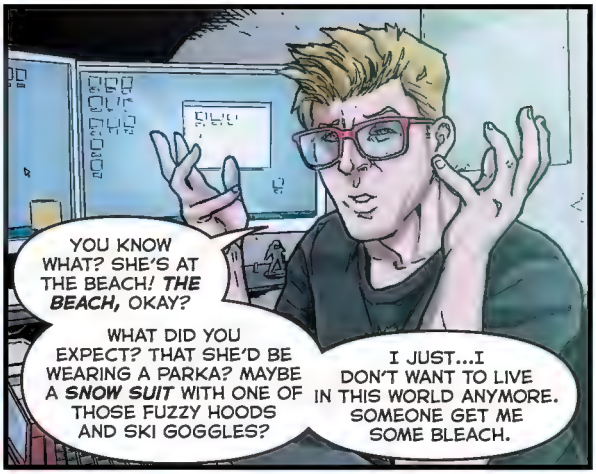

IT WAS THE MOMENT WE KNEW WOULD EVENTUALLY HAPPEN.
SO HOW BAD WAS IT?
BAD. LIKE, TMZ BAD. I WAS SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE, SMART PHONES RECORDING THE ENTIRE THING, FLASHBULBS GOING OFF AND WHO EVEN USES A FLASHBULB ANYMORE?
OKAY, LET'S TAKE A LITTLE BREAK IN THE NARRATIVE, HERE. THERE'S BEEN A LOT TO TAKE IN, AND I NEED A BREATHER.
BUT THINGS WERE JUST GETTING GOOD! I WAS ABOUT TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE SHOOT-OUT.
PUT A PIN IN IT.
IF YOU'VE BEEN OUTED, THEN WE'LL NEED TO DO SOME DAMAGE CONTROL. WE SHOULD CHECK THE INTERNET TO SEE WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT YOU.
WHAT, LIKE NEWS SITES? WHAT COULD THEY POSSIBLY BE SAYING ABOUT ME? THEY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ME!
OH, SWEETIE. YOU HAVE SO MUCH TO LEARN.

Rayray Williamson
AWW, THAT'S SO SWEET! SEE? IT'S NOT AS BAD AS YOU THINK.
BUCKLE IN, GIRL-- WE'RE JUST GETTING STARTED...

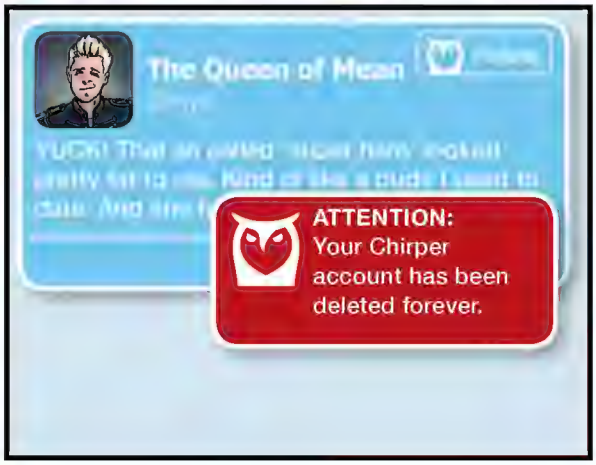

IS THIS THE WORLD WE LIVE IN, NOW? WHERE HALF NAKED PEOPLE CAN JUST SWIM UP FROM THE OCEAN FLOOR AND START A BATTLE ON A PUBLIC BEACH?
THIS IS A NATIONAL SECURITY ISSUE, AND THE MAINSTREAM MEDIA REFUSES TO ACKNOWLEDGE IT.

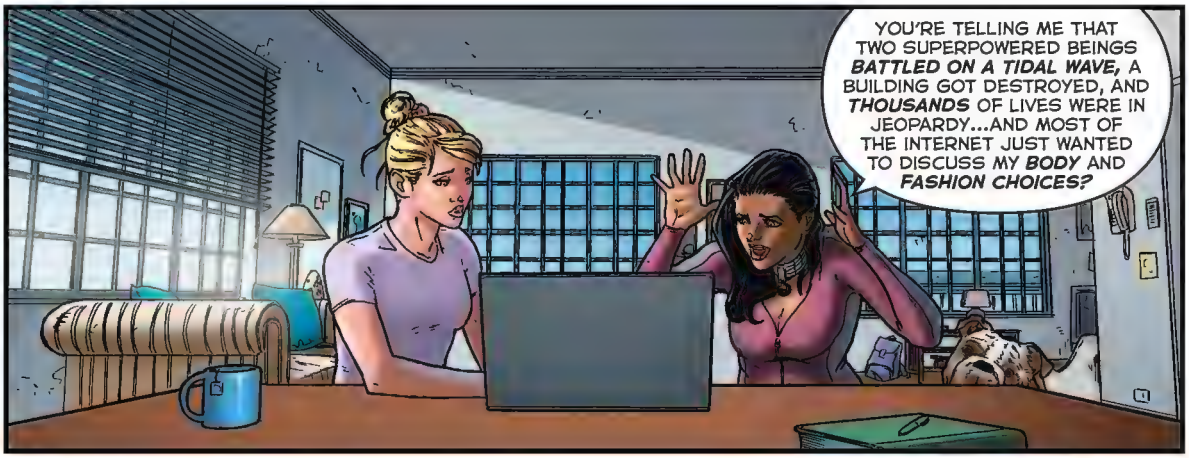
THIS IS BULL[BLEEP]! WE'RE JUST LUMPING ALL OF 'THESE PEOPLE' TOGETHER, NOW? THESE TWO INDIVIDUALS OBVIOUSLY DON'T REPRESENT EVERYONE IN THE OCEAN!
AND THIS HAPPENED IN SAN DIEGO, YOU [BLEEP]ING IDIOT-- WHY ARE YOU EVEN TALKING ABOUT THIS OVER IN ENGLAND?! I'M [BLEEP]ING BETTER THAN YOU!

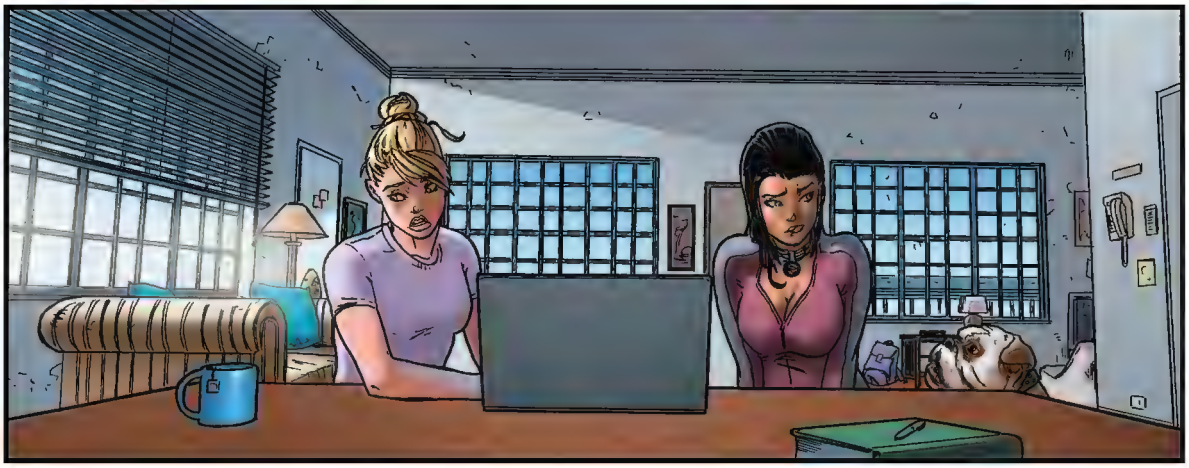
WHAT KIND OF A MESSAGE IS THIS SENDING TO YOUNG GIRLS? THIS WOMAN CHOOSES TO DRESS IN A REVEALING WETSUIT SOLELY FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF MALE ONLOOKERS. CAN'T SHE BATTLE EVIL IN MORE APPROPRIATE ATTIRE?


YOU KNOW WHAT? SHE'S AT THE BEACH! THE BEACH, OKAY?
WHAT DID YOU EXPECT? THAT SHE'D BE WEARING A PARKA? MAYBE A SNOW SUIT WITH ONE OF THOSE FUZZY HOODS AND SKI GOGGLES?
I JUST...I DON'T WANT TO LIVE IN THIS WORLD ANYMORE. SOMEONE GET ME SOME BLEACH.

WHEN SHE'S NOT BUSY SAVING ALL OF OUR ASSES, THIS WOMAN COULD BE A NEUROSURGEON OR A MARINE BIOLOGIST, FOR ALL WE KNOW-- WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE WHAT SHE'S WEARING?


The Queen of Mean
ATTENTION:
Your Chirper account has been deleted forever.


YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT TWO SUPERPOWERED BEINGS ***BATTLED ON A TIDAL WAVE,*** A BUILDING GOT DESTROYED, AND ***THOUSANDS*** OF LIVES WERE IN JEOPARDY...AND MOST OF THE INTERNET JUST WANTED TO DISCUSS MY ***BODY*** AND ***FASHION CHOICES?***



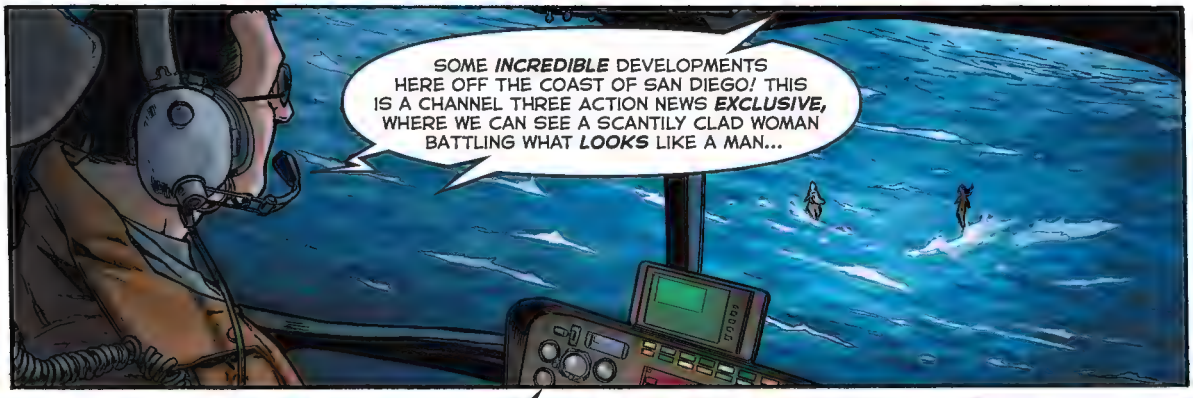
YOU DON'T GO ONLINE MUCH, DO YOU?

THE THING IS, YOU SPEND ***MOST*** OF YOUR TIME IN A LAB, OR SWIMMING AROUND WITH SHARKS AND OCTOPUSSES.
'OCTOPI'.
BUT YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE ONLINE - HOW ***HOSTILE*** IT CAN BE. YOU MIGHT BE GOOD AT FIGHTING MONSTERS AND DROPKICKING WHALES...
DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT I DO FOR A LIVING?
I'M JUST SAYING, THE INTERNET IS ***BRUTAL.*** PERCEPTION IS REALITY, AND WHAT PEOPLE THINK OF YOU WILL SHAPE YOUR ***ENTIRE*** IMAGE.

SIGH. ALL RIGHT, WE CAN TRY AND DUCT TAPE THE REMAINS OF MY SHATTERED PUBLIC IMAGE LATER. FOR NOW, LET'S GET BACK TO THE STORY. THERE'S STILL A LOT TO TELL YOU.
SO THE CIVILIANS WERE OUT OF HARM'S WAY, AND THAT'S WHEN SAN DIEGO'S FINEST SHOWED UP. THEY CAME IN SIRENS WAILING, AND-- AS PER USUAL -- WITH GUNS BLAZING.
THEY OPENED FIRE ON THE WARRIOR BUT THEIR BULLETS WERE BOUNCING RIGHT OFF OF HIM. THEY MIGHT AS WELL HAVE BEEN SHOOTING HIM WITH NERF GUNS.
YOUR PATHETIC WEAPONS HAVE NO EFFECT ON ***THE TYPHOS.*** WE INHABIT THE DEEPEST TRENCHES OF THE SEAS, IMMUNE TO CRUSHING PRESSURES THAT WOULD ***SHATTER*** YOUR BRITTLE SIMIAN BONES.
CONTINUE TO RESIST AT YOUR PERIL, FILTHY LAND DWELLERS. YOU WILL SOON BE ***SILENCED.*** ALL WHO DARE RAISE THEIR VOICES IN OPPOSITION WILL BE DESTROYED AT THE HANDS OF YOUR NEW RULERS!

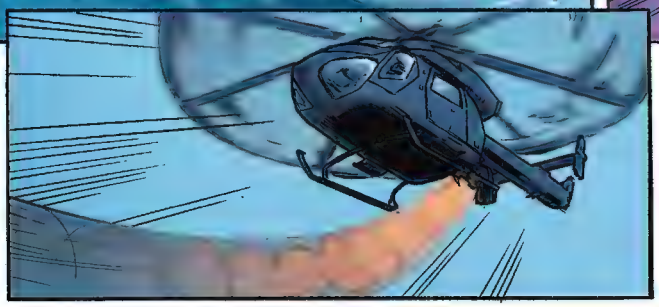
THAT WAS WHEN THE CRAP REALLY HIT THE FAN. OR MORE ACCURATELY, WHEN THE GLAIVE HIT THE POLICE CRUISERS.
KA-BOOOOM!
I WANTED TO BRING THIS TYPHOS GUY IN ALIVE-- DELIVER HIM TO THE BLUE SO THEY COULD QUESTION HIM.
AND MAYBE EVEN FIND OUT WHERE HIS MYSTERY WEAPON CAME FROM.
BUT HE WAS SO POWERFUL.
MAKING A CITIZEN'S ARREST DIDN'T SEEM LIKE A REALISTIC OPTION.

SO WHAT WAS THE PLAN?
DIDN'T HAVE ONE. AT LEAST NOT YET.
I JUST NEEDED TO GET HIM AWAY FROM DOWNTOWN BEFORE HE FLATTENED SOMEONE INTO A MEAT WAFFLE.
YEAH, THAT WAS PROBABLY A GOOD CALL. I CAN JUST IMAGINE THE HEADLINES: 'HALF NAKED MERMAN SQUISHES UNSUSPECTING HUMANS.'
THAT REMINDS ME: WHEN YOU WRITE ABOUT THIS IN THE SANDERSON POST TOMORROW, PLEASE DON'T CALL ME A MERMAID. I KNOW YOU'RE ALL ABOUT CLICKBAIT HEADLINES, BUT--
HEY! I RESENT THAT WORD. IN ONLINE JOURNALISM, WE CALL THOSE 'ENHANCED REVENUE GENERATION LEAD-IN PHRASES'. AND BE NICE, BECAUSE MY HEADLINES ARE CURRENTLY PAYING BOTH HALVES OF OUR RENT ON THIS BEACH HOUSE.
WHATEVER HELPS YOU SLEEP AT NIGHT, TY.
SO DID YOU GET HIM FAR ENOUGH INTO OPEN WATER THAT YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT COLLATERAL DAMAGE?
YEAH, FOR A FEW MOMENTS ...UNTIL THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE CAME TO US.

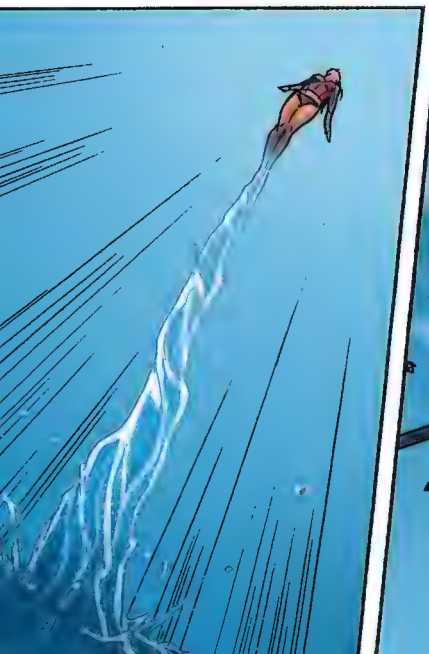

SOME *INCREDIBLE* DEVELOPMENTS HERE OFF THE COAST OF SAN DIEGO! THIS IS A CHANNEL THREE ACTION NEWS *EXCLUSIVE,* WHERE WE CAN SEE A SCANTILY CLAD WOMAN BATTLING WHAT *LOOKS* LIKE A MAN...

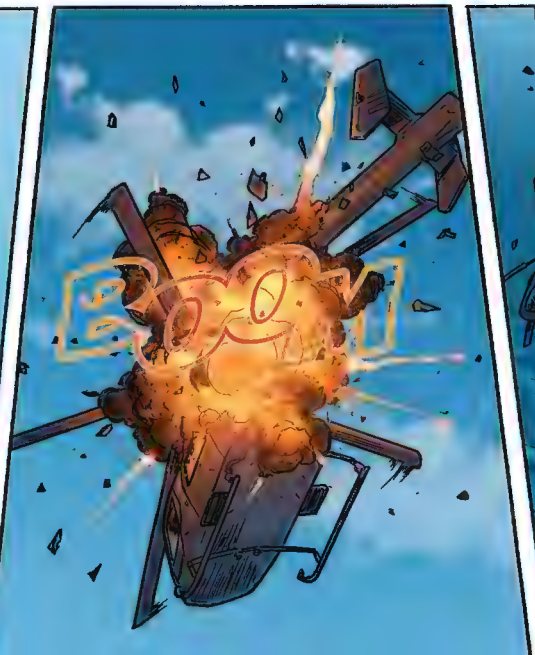
HE'S *HOLDING* SOMETHING, LIKE A GIANT NINJA STAR. THIS IS THE *VERY SAME* WEAPON THAT TOOK DOWN A BUILDING JUST A FEW MOMENTS AGO, AT...OH *CRAP.*

YOUR DESIRE TO *PROTECT* THESE FOOLISH HUMANS WILL BE YOUR *DOWNFALL,* ASPEN OF THE BLUE. THAT WEAKNESS WILL ALLOW US TO CLAIM OUR RIGHTFUL PLACE. TO BUILD THE *EMPIRE* WE HAVE LONG BEEN DENIED.

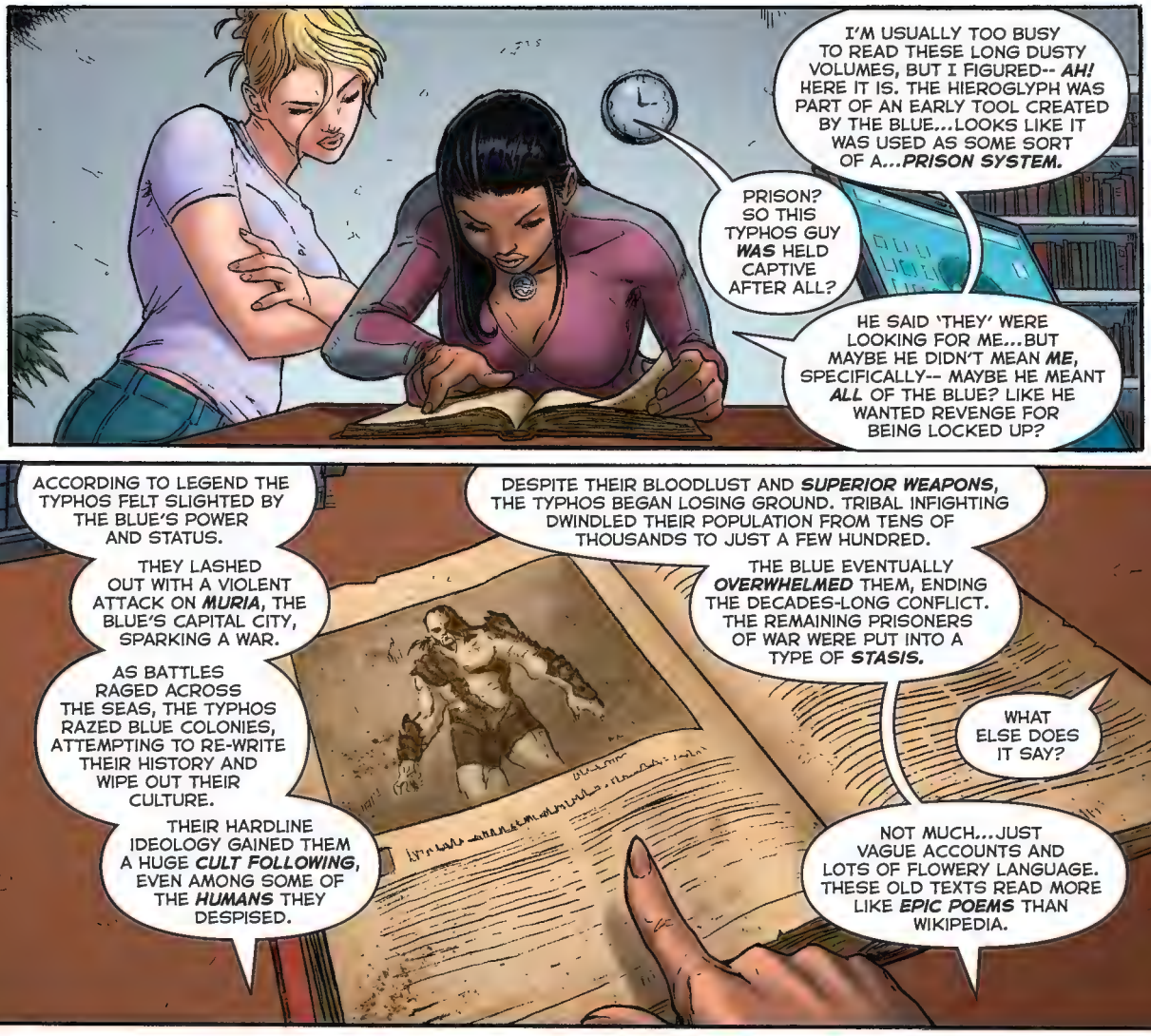


NO!



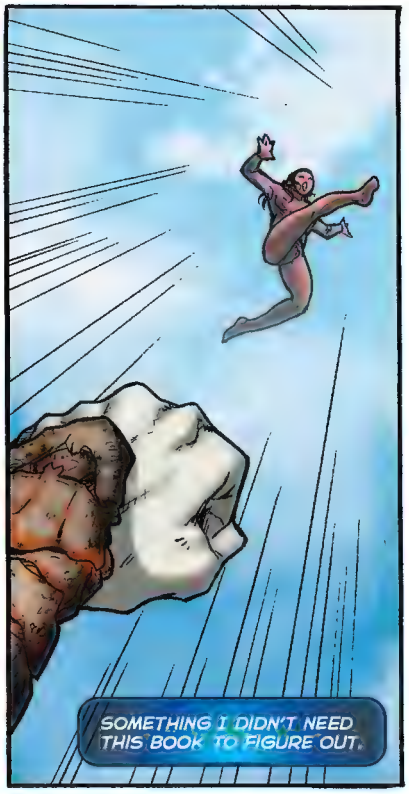


THESE FOOLISH HUMANS AREN'T EXPENDABLE. THEY'RE WORTH SAVING, AND MOST AREN'T AS DUMB AS THEY LOOK.
THANK YOU...?
BY THE WAY, CAN YOU SWIM?
YEAH, BUT...
AHHHHHHHH!
SPLOOOOSH!
THEY WILL BE SWEPT UP IN THE WAKE OF GODS AND TOSSED TO THE DEPTHS, AND THE TIDES OF TIME WILL DROWN THEIR--
WHILE HE WAS YAPPING AWAY I NOTICED SOMETHING... THE TATTOO ON HIS CHEST WAS THE SAME AS THE HIEROGLYPH IN THE CAVE. I THINK I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE.
ARE YOU KIDDING ME? YOU'RE TAKING ANOTHER BREAK IN THE STORY?
TRUST ME, THIS IS WORTH A QUICK INTERMISSION.
MY FRIEND LARA GAVE IT TO ME A FEW YEARS BACK. SHE'S AN ARCHEOLOGIST FROM LONDON--
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT?
SHE'D JUST GOTTEN BACK FROM A TRIP TO GREECE AND THOUGHT I MIGHT FIND IT INTERESTING.


I'M USUALLY TOO BUSY TO READ THESE LONG DUSTY VOLUMES, BUT I FIGURED-- AH! HERE IT IS. THE HIEROGLYPH WAS PART OF AN EARLY TOOL CREATED BY THE BLUE...LOOKS LIKE IT WAS USED AS SOME SORT OF A...PRISON SYSTEM.
PRISON? SO THIS TYPHOS GUY WAS HELD CAPTIVE AFTER ALL?
HE SAID 'THEY' WERE LOOKING FOR ME...BUT MAYBE HE DIDN'T MEAN ME, SPECIFICALLY-- MAYBE HE MEANT ALL OF THE BLUE? LIKE HE WANTED REVENGE FOR BEING LOCKED UP?
ACCORDING TO LEGEND THE TYPHOS FELT SLIGHTED BY THE BLUE'S POWER AND STATUS.
THEY LASHED OUT WITH A VIOLENT ATTACK ON MURIA, THE BLUE'S CAPITAL CITY, SPARKING A WAR.
AS BATTLES RAGED ACROSS THE SEAS, THE TYPHOS RAZED BLUE COLONIES, ATTEMPTING TO RE-WRITE THEIR HISTORY AND WIPE OUT THEIR CULTURE.
THEIR HARDLINE IDEOLOGY GAINED THEM A HUGE CULT FOLLOWING, EVEN AMONG SOME OF THE HUMANS THEY DESPISED.
DESPITE THEIR BLOODLUST AND SUPERIOR WEAPONS, THE TYPHOS BEGAN LOSING GROUND. TRIBAL INFIGHTING DWINDLED THEIR POPULATION FROM TENS OF THOUSANDS TO JUST A FEW HUNDRED.
THE BLUE EVENTUALLY OVERWHELMED THEM, ENDING THE DECADES-LONG CONFLICT. THE REMAINING PRISONERS OF WAR WERE PUT INTO A TYPE OF STASIS.
WHAT ELSE DOES IT SAY?
NOT MUCH...JUST VAGUE ACCOUNTS AND LOTS OF FLOWERY LANGUAGE. THESE OLD TEXTS READ MORE LIKE EPIC POEMS THAN WIKIPEDIA.

BUT IT DOES MENTION THAT THEY WERE TEMPERAMENTAL AND WILDLY IRRATIONAL.

IF YOU COULD ANGER THEM, WHICH WASN'T HARD TO DO, THEY'D BECOME RECKLESS.

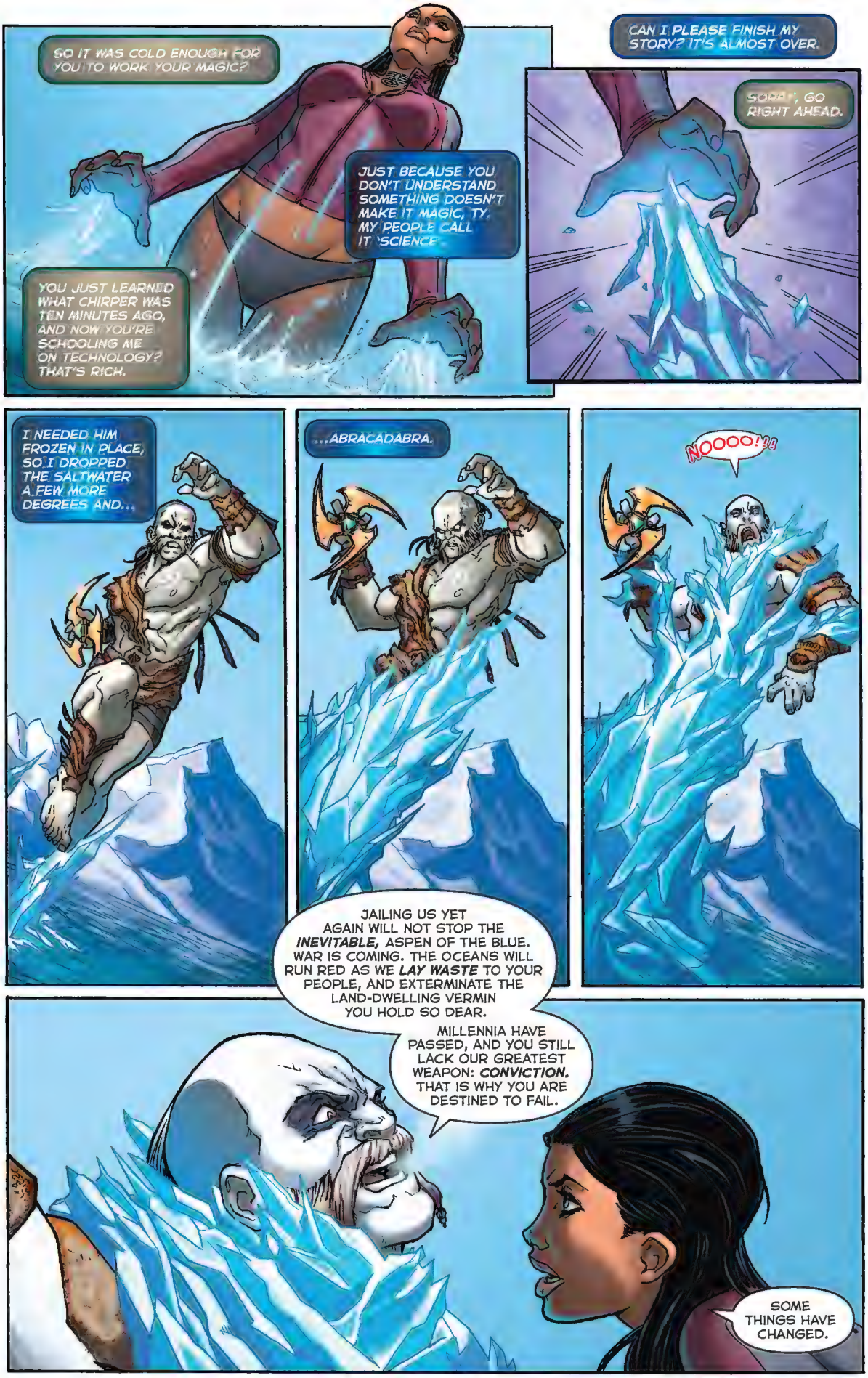

SOMETHING I DIDN'T NEED THIS BOOK TO FIGURE OUT.

I HAD TO MAKE SURE HE'D HIT ME HARD ENOUGH TO CARRY US UP THE COAST. BY MANIPULATING THE CURRENT BENEATH US, I MADE SURE WE TRAVELLED HUNDREDS OF MILES EVERY TIME HE STRUCK.
THAT WAS YOUR BIG PLAN? LETTING HIM SMASH YOUR FACE IN? WEREN'T YOU WORRIED ABOUT BITING YOUR TONGUE AGAIN? OR YOU KNOW, DYING?

IT WAS ALL SMOKE AND MIRRORS. I CAN MANIPULATE MY CELLS AND ADJUST THEIR PROPERTIES-- SO WHILE HE THOUGHT HE WAS BEATING ME TO A PULP, HE WAS REALLY JUST PUNCHING CALCIFIED WATER.

BESIDES, EATING A FEW RIGHT HOOKS WAS THE LEAST OF MY WORRIES...AS LONG AS I COULD AVOID GETTING SLICED AND DICED BY HIS GLAIVE, I HAD A CHANCE TO LOCK HIM DOWN.

IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG. I USED THE NORTH PACIFIC CURRENT TO DIRECT US UP TOWARDS ALASKA, WHERE THE WATER TEMPERATURE HAD DROPPED INTO THE MID-THIRTIES.


SO IT WAS COLD ENOUGH FOR YOU TO WORK YOUR MAGIC?
JUST BECAUSE YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND SOMETHING DOESN'T MAKE IT MAGIC, TY. MY PEOPLE CALL IT 'SCIENCE'.
YOU JUST LEARNED WHAT CHIRPER WAS TEN MINUTES AGO, AND NOW YOU'RE SCHOOLING ME ON TECHNOLOGY? THAT'S RICH.
CAN I PLEASE FINISH MY STORY? IT'S ALMOST OVER.
SORRY, GO RIGHT AHEAD.
I NEEDED HIM FROZEN IN PLACE, SO I DROPPED THE SALTWATER A FEW MORE DEGREES AND...
...ABRACADABRA.
NOOOO!!!
JAILING US YET AGAIN WILL NOT STOP THE ***INEVITABLE,*** ASPEN OF THE BLUE. WAR IS COMING. THE OCEANS WILL RUN RED AS WE ***LAY WASTE*** TO YOUR PEOPLE, AND EXTERMINATE THE LAND-DWELLING VERMIN YOU HOLD SO DEAR.
MILLENNIA HAVE PASSED, AND YOU STILL LACK OUR GREATEST WEAPON: ***CONVICTION.*** THAT IS WHY YOU ARE DESTINED TO FAIL.
SOME THINGS HAVE CHANGED.

AND WE'LL SEE HOW MUCH CONVICTION *YOU* HAVE WHEN YOU'RE BEING QUESTIONED BY THE ***ELITE COUNCIL.*** THEY'VE PICKED UP A COUPLE TRICKS FROM THE DUMB HUMANS-- TURNS OUT THAT THE MOST PRIMITIVE TECHNIQUES ARE THE MOST CONVINCING.
NO ONE DARES QUESTION US. NOT THE LAND DWELLERS, NOT THE BLUE. AND IF THE BATTLES TO COME ARE FOUGHT WITH RESOLVE...
KRRRRRAKKKK!
DON'T YOU--
KRIK
KRIK
BLEEP BEEP
*I WASN'T QUICK ENOUGH TO STOP HIM. IT WAS A MASSIVE DOSE OF **PEDITOXIN,** IF I HAD TO GUESS-- AT LEAST BASED ON THE MUSCLE SPASMS AND CONVULSIONS. I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE WITH FLOWER URCHIN STINGS.*
...THEN THE WAR IS ALREADY OVER.

OH, BY THE WAY, I HAVE ONE LAST THING TO SHOW YOU.
WAIT, THERE'S MORE? HOW CAN THERE BE MORE?
OH. MY. GOD. PLEASE TELL ME THERE ISN'T A HEAD IN MY HOPE CHEST. THAT'S DISGUSTING...AND THAT'S ALSO WHERE I KEEP THE GOOD LINENS.
OF COURSE NOT. WHO DO YOU THINK I AM?
A MARINE BIOLOGIST WHO ISN'T SQUEAMISH ABOUT BRINGING DEAD THINGS HOME WITH HER? THERE'S BEEN A TENTACLE IN OUR FREEZER FOR SIX MONTHS.
YEAH, WELL, FAIR POINT-- BUT I'M NOT A GHOUL.
WOW, SO THAT'S THE GLAIVE. PRETTY.
IT DOES MORE THAN JUST SLICE AND DICE-- IT'S LIKE THE SWISS ARMY KNIFE OF WEAPONS. IT HAS A TRACKING DEVICE, A COMMUNICATIONS TOOL, AND...
THAT IS INCREDIBLE. AND YOU LOOK SO... SO...
HEROIC?

AND IF THE REST OF THE TYPHOS WANT A *WAR*, THEY CAN COME FIND ME, TOO. IN THE MEANTIME, I'M TAKING A TRIP BACK HOME TO *MURIA*. IT'S TIME TO GET SOME ANSWERS.
TO BE CONTINUED...

BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#2
OF 8
COVER A
aspencomics.com

BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#2
OF 8
COVER B
ANGEL OVAR
aspencomics.com

PREVIOUSLY IN:

Aspen Matthews discovered firsthand about the Typhos, a population of Blue that has only been written in legend, yet now have been unleashed on the surface for some unknown reason. However, a bigger problem may be the level of destruction Aspen and the Typhos reigned down on the city of San Diego during their battle—with the rest of the world watching...

ASPEN COMICS PRESENTS

All New Fathom

PART 2 of 6

Blake Northcott
writer

Marco Renna
pencils

Mark Roslan
digital inks

John Starr
colors

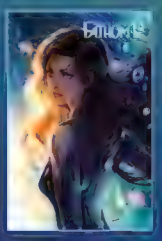
Zen
letters

Vince Hernandez, Gabe Carrasco *-editors*

Mark Roslan, Peter Steigerwald, Gabe Carrasco *-design & production*

Direct Edition
MARCO RENNA
JOHN STARR

Direct Edition
ANGEL TOVAR
JOHN STARR



Retailer Incentive Edition
FAN YANG

Emerald City Comicon 2017
Exclusive Limited Edition of 200
SIYA OUM

FATHOM CREATED BY MICHAEL TURNER

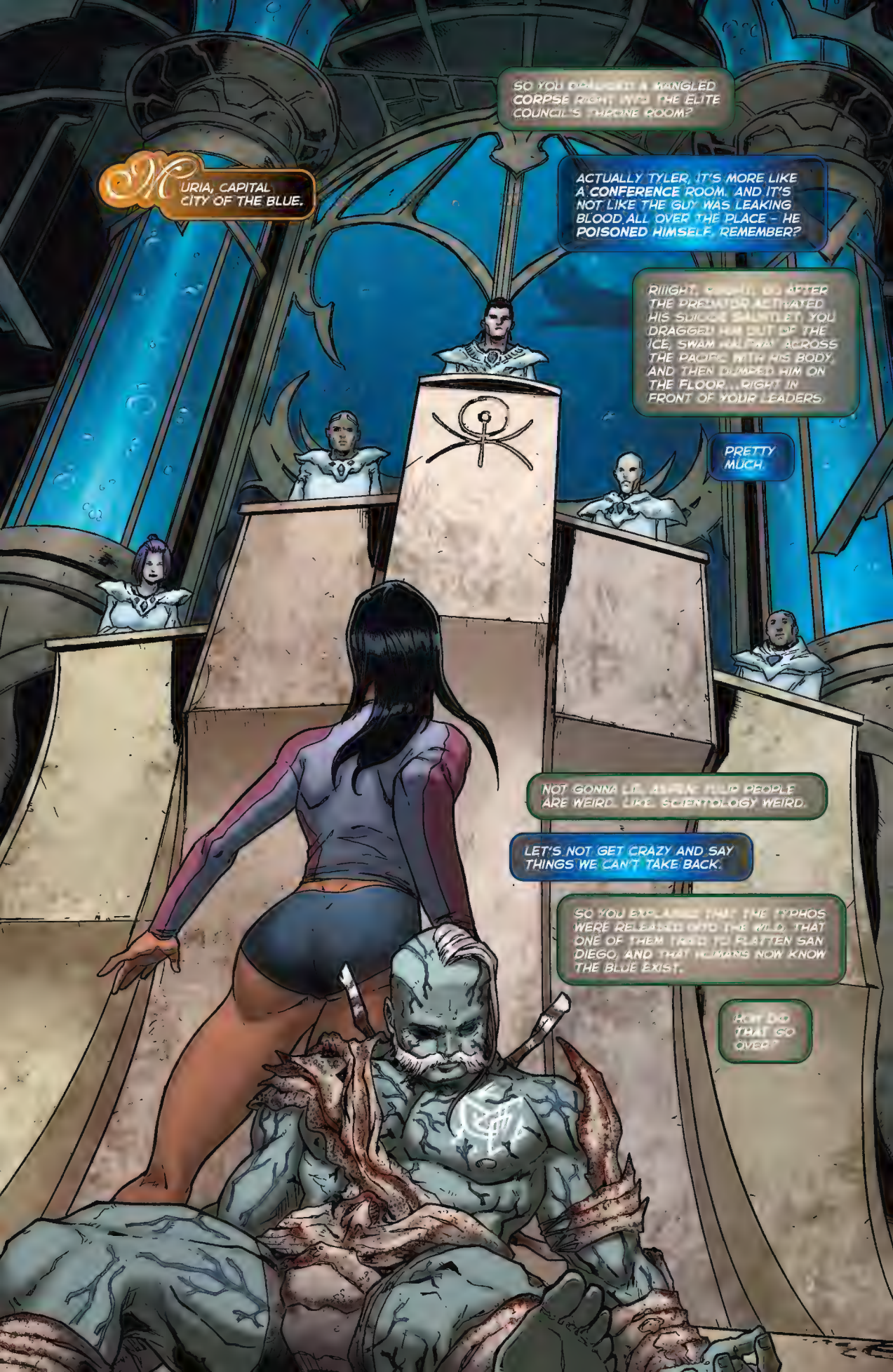
FOR ASPEN: Founder: MICHAEL TURNER Co-Owner: PETER STEIGERWALD Co-Owner/President: FRANK MASTROMAURO
Vice President/Editor in Chief: VINCE HERNANDEZ Vice President/Design and Production: MARK ROSLAN
Editorial Assistant: GABE CARRASCO Office Manager: MEGAN MADRIGAL AspenStore.com: CHRIS RUPP

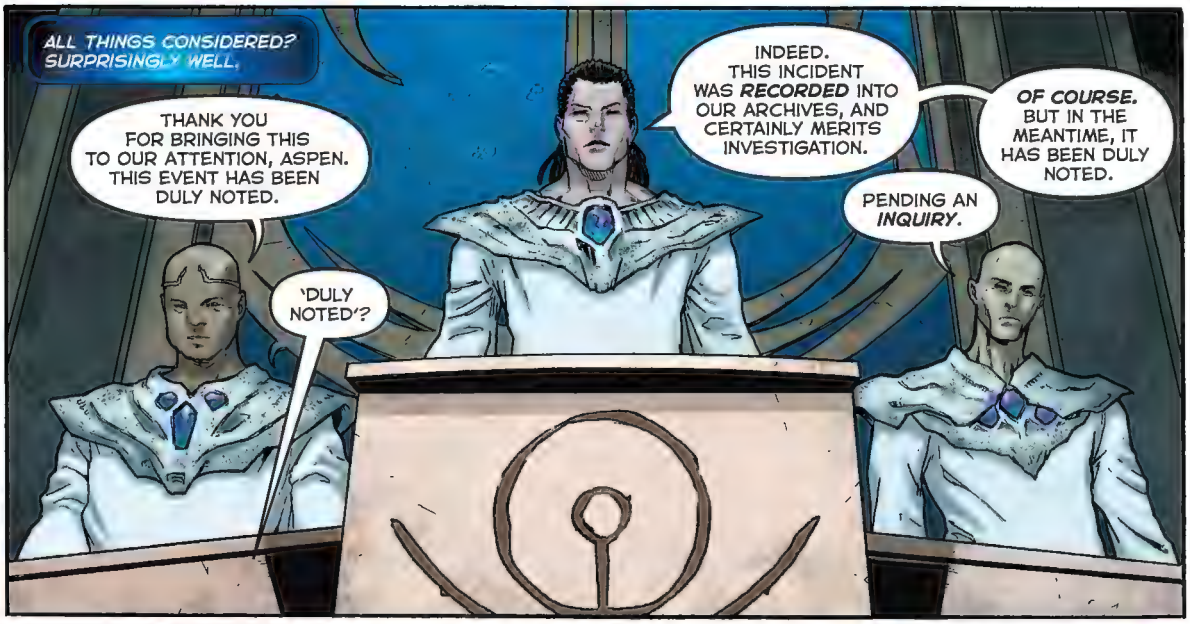
ALL NEW MICHAEL TURNER'S FATHOM™ Vol. 6 Issue 2 MARCH 2017. DIGITAL COPY.

Published by Aspen MLT, Inc., Office of Publication: 5701 W. Slauson Ave. Suite. 120, Culver City, CA 90230. The Aspen MLT, Inc. logo® is a registered trademark of Aspen MLT, Inc. All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ and the All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ logo, are the trademarks of Aspen MLT, Inc. The entire contents of this book, all artwork, characters and their likenesses are © 2017 Aspen MLT, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Any similarities between names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with persons living or dead or institutions is unintended and is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this book may be reprinted, reproduced or transmitted by any means or in any form without the express written consent of Aspen MLT, Inc.

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.ASPENCOMICS.COM
FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT FACEBOOK.COM/ASPENCOMICS
FOLLOW US ON TWITTER AT TWITTER.COM/ASPENCOMICS
FOR MORE ASPEN COMICS GO TO WWW.ASPENSTORE.COM

FOR THE COMICS RETAILER NEAREST YOU CALL: 1888-COMIC-BOOK

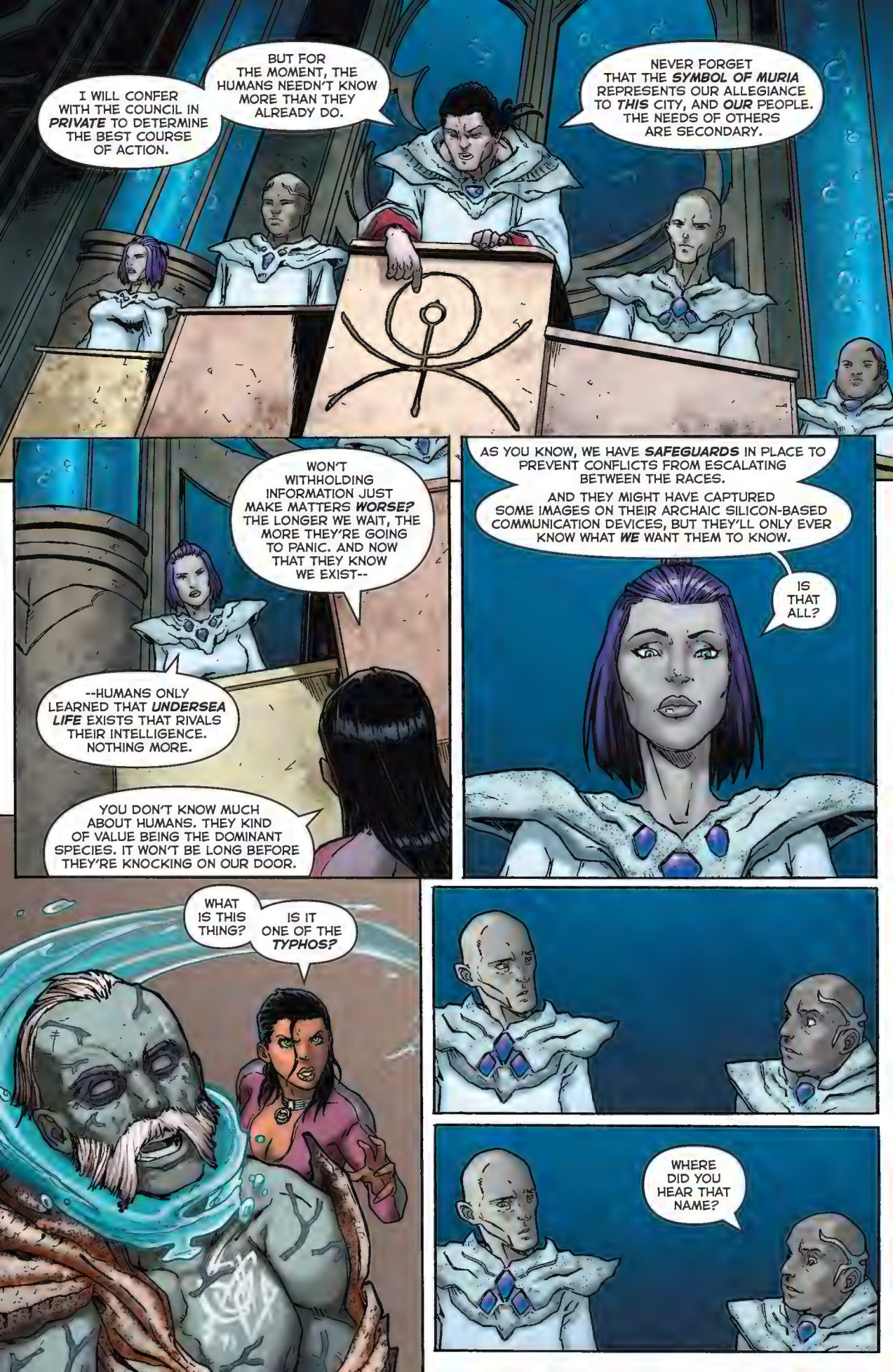

MURIA, CAPITAL CITY OF THE BLUE.
SO YOU DRAGGED A MANGLED CORPSE RIGHT INTO THE ELITE COUNCIL'S THRONE ROOM?
ACTUALLY TYLER, IT'S MORE LIKE A CONFERENCE ROOM. AND IT'S NOT LIKE THE GUY WAS LEAKING BLOOD ALL OVER THE PLACE - HE POISONED HIMSELF, REMEMBER?
RIIIGHT, [illegible], SO AFTER THE PREDATOR ACTIVATED HIS SUICIDE GAUNTLET YOU DRAGGED HIM OUT OF THE ICE, SWAM HALFWAY ACROSS THE PACIFIC WITH HIS BODY, AND THEN DUMPED HIM ON THE FLOOR...RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOUR LEADERS.
PRETTY MUCH.
NOT GONNA LIE, ASPIRIA FOLD PEOPLE ARE WEIRD. LIKE, SCIENTOLOGY WEIRD.
LET'S NOT GET CRAZY AND SAY THINGS WE CAN'T TAKE BACK.
SO YOU EXPLAINED THAT THE TYPHOS WERE RELEASED INTO THE WILD, THAT ONE OF THEM TRIED TO FLATTEN SAN DIEGO, AND THAT HUMANS NOW KNOW THE BLUE EXIST.
HOW DO THAT GO OVER?


ALL THINGS CONSIDERED? SURPRISINGLY WELL.
THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THIS TO OUR ATTENTION, ASPEN. THIS EVENT HAS BEEN DULY NOTED.
'DULY NOTED'?
INDEED. THIS INCIDENT WAS ***RECORDED*** INTO OUR ARCHIVES, AND CERTAINLY MERITS INVESTIGATION.
PENDING AN ***INQUIRY***.
OF COURSE. BUT IN THE MEANTIME, IT HAS BEEN DULY NOTED.

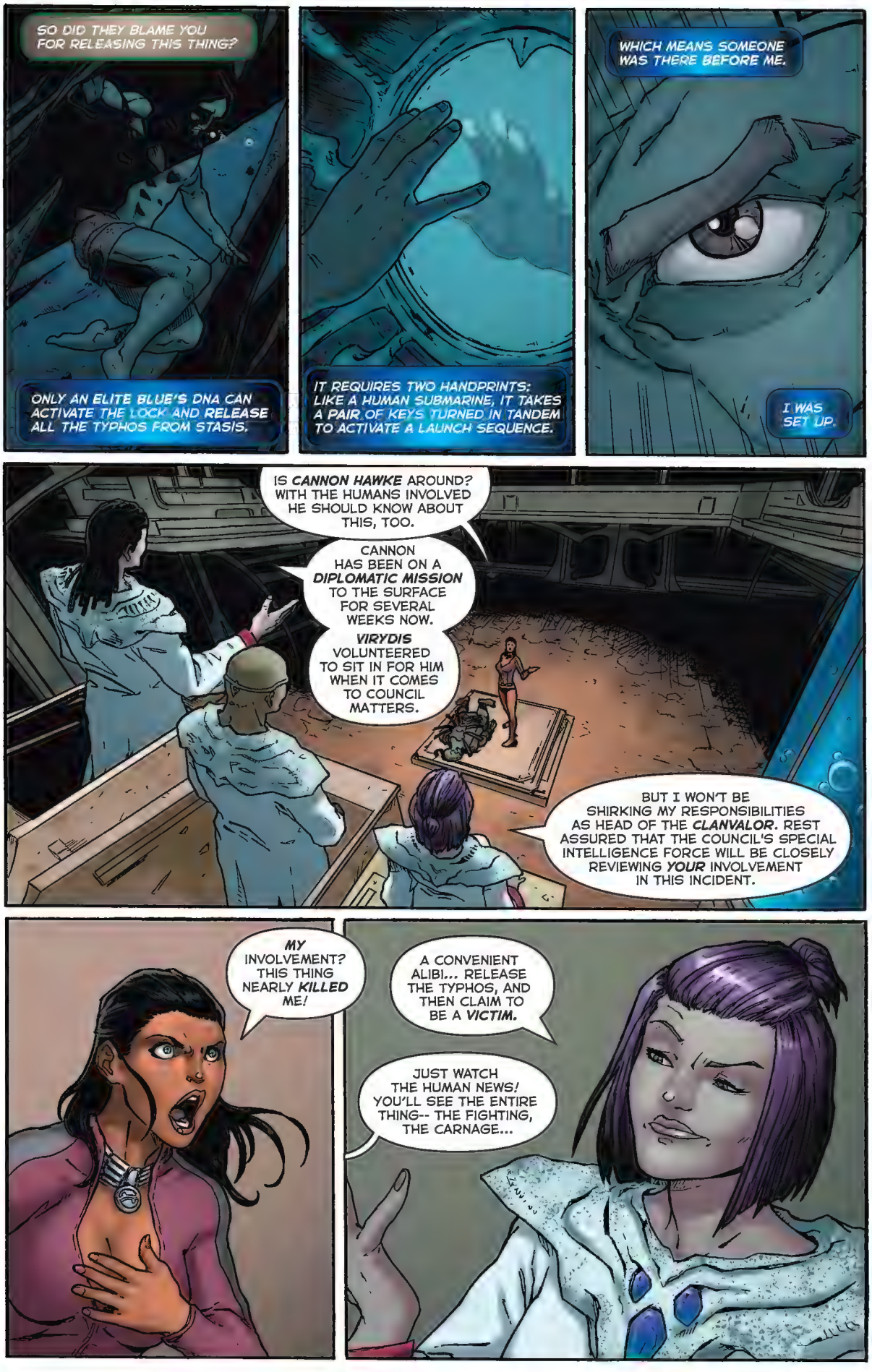
AH, WELL, AS LONG AS IT WAS ***DULY*** NOTED. I WAS WORRIED THAT THIS LITTLE 'INCIDENT' WAS JUST ***NOTED,*** ALL WILLY-NILLY WITHOUT A CARE IN THE WORLD.
'DULY' CHANGES EVERYTHING.

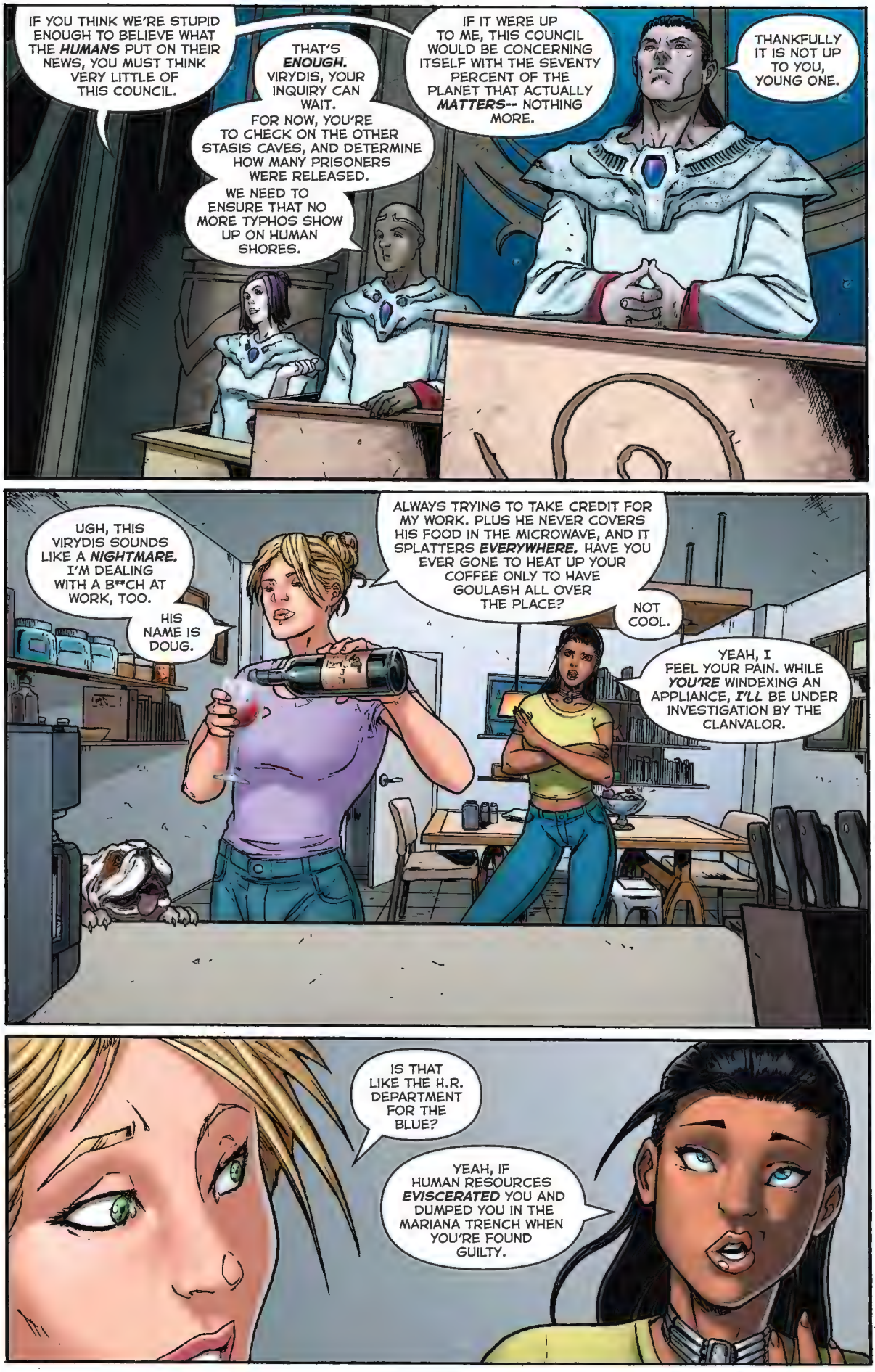
ASPEN...YOU'RE NOT ***PLEASED*** WITH THE WILL OF THE COUNCIL?
WITH RESPECT, ***SIPHON,*** I DON'T THINK YOU ARE GRASPING THE FULL ***SCOPE*** OF WHAT JUST OCCURRED.

THIS MONSTER RAMPAGED THROUGH A ***HUMAN*** CITY, ENDANGERING LIVES. IF I WASN'T THERE TO STOP IT, WHO KNOWS WHAT KIND OF DAMAGE IT WOULD'VE DONE.
DOESN'T THAT WARRANT A LITTLE MORE THAN SOME ***NOTE-TAKING?***
DON'T MISTAKE MY CALMNESS FOR INDIFFERENCE. IF WE'RE EXPOSED, THIS HAS BECOME A ***VERY*** COMPLICATED MATTER-


I WILL CONFER WITH THE COUNCIL IN ***PRIVATE*** TO DETERMINE THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION.
BUT FOR THE MOMENT, THE HUMANS NEEDN'T KNOW MORE THAN THEY ALREADY DO.
NEVER FORGET THAT THE ***SYMBOL OF MURIA*** REPRESENTS OUR ALLEGIANCE TO ***THIS*** CITY, AND ***OUR*** PEOPLE. THE NEEDS OF OTHERS ARE SECONDARY.
WON'T WITHHOLDING INFORMATION JUST MAKE MATTERS ***WORSE?*** THE LONGER WE WAIT, THE MORE THEY'RE GOING TO PANIC. AND NOW THAT THEY KNOW WE EXIST--
--HUMANS ONLY LEARNED THAT ***UNDERSEA LIFE*** EXISTS THAT RIVALS THEIR INTELLIGENCE. NOTHING MORE.
YOU DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HUMANS. THEY KIND OF VALUE BEING THE DOMINANT SPECIES. IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE THEY'RE KNOCKING ON OUR DOOR.
AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE ***SAFEGUARDS*** IN PLACE TO PREVENT CONFLICTS FROM ESCALATING BETWEEN THE RACES.
AND THEY MIGHT HAVE CAPTURED SOME IMAGES ON THEIR ARCHAIC SILICON-BASED COMMUNICATION DEVICES, BUT THEY'LL ONLY EVER KNOW WHAT ***WE*** WANT THEM TO KNOW.
IS THAT ALL?
WHAT IS THIS THING?
IS IT ONE OF THE ***TYPHOS?***
WHERE DID YOU HEAR THAT NAME?

AND THAT'S WHEN THE COUNCIL CONFIRMED EVERYTHING FROM LARA'S BOOK.
MORE THAN A THOUSAND YEARS AGO THE TYPHOS REVOLTED, STORMING BLUE CITIES AND STRONGHOLDS--
THEN MURIA.
THE BLUE HAVE ALWAYS KEPT IMMACULATE ARCHIVES, FAR PREDATING THEIR BATTLES WITH THE TYPHOS - BUT WHEN RECOUNTING THE CONFLICTS, THE DETAILS ARE HAZY.
'A DARK PART OF OUR HISTORY', SIPHON SAYS... 'MISTAKES WERE MADE ON BOTH SIDES'. THAT SORT OF THING.
HMMM. SOUNDS LIKE A BIG PILE OF CRYPTIC
THE REST CHECKS OUT: TRIBAL INFIGHTING REDUCED THE TYPHOS NUMBERS, THE BLUE OVERWHELMED THEM, AND THEN SPREAD THE PRISONERS ACROSS THE OCEANS IN SEPARATE CONTAINMENT UNITS...
MORE COULD HAVE BEEN RELEASED WHEN I TOUCHED THE DEVICE, BUT THEY WERE CRYPTIC ABOUT THAT, TOO.
AND AS I DISCOVERED, THEY'RE ALREADY ARMED. MANY OF THEIR WEAPONS WERE PERMANENTLY GRAFTED TO THEIR BODIES SO THEY COULD AVOID BEING DISARMED DURING COMBAT.
IT'S WHY THEY WERE PLACED INTO STASIS WITH THEIR GAUNTLETS-- THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE WOULD'VE BEEN TO SEVER THEIR LIMBS BEFORE PUTTING THEM IN THE FREEZER.


SO DID THEY BLAME YOU FOR RELEASING THIS THING?
ONLY AN ELITE BLUE'S DNA CAN ACTIVATE THE LOCK AND RELEASE ALL THE TYPHOS FROM STASIS.
IT REQUIRES TWO HANDPRINTS: LIKE A HUMAN SUBMARINE, IT TAKES A PAIR OF KEYS TURNED IN TANDEM TO ACTIVATE A LAUNCH SEQUENCE.
WHICH MEANS SOMEONE WAS THERE BEFORE ME.
I WAS SET UP.
IS CANNON HAWKE AROUND? WITH THE HUMANS INVOLVED HE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THIS, TOO.
CANNON HAS BEEN ON A DIPLOMATIC MISSION TO THE SURFACE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS NOW.
VIRYDIS VOLUNTEERED TO SIT IN FOR HIM WHEN IT COMES TO COUNCIL MATTERS.
BUT I WON'T BE SHIRKING MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS HEAD OF THE CLANVALOR. REST ASSURED THAT THE COUNCIL'S SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE FORCE WILL BE CLOSELY REVIEWING YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THIS INCIDENT.
MY INVOLVEMENT? THIS THING NEARLY KILLED ME!
A CONVENIENT ALIBI... RELEASE THE TYPHOS, AND THEN CLAIM TO BE A VICTIM.
JUST WATCH THE HUMAN NEWS! YOU'LL SEE THE ENTIRE THING-- THE FIGHTING, THE CARNAGE...

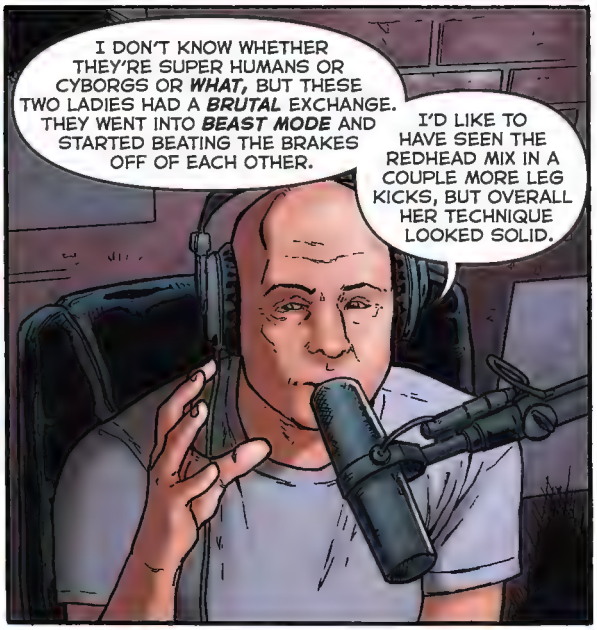

IF YOU THINK WE'RE STUPID ENOUGH TO BELIEVE WHAT THE HUMANS PUT ON THEIR NEWS, YOU MUST THINK VERY LITTLE OF THIS COUNCIL.
THAT'S ENOUGH. VIRYDIS, YOUR INQUIRY CAN WAIT.
FOR NOW, YOU'RE TO CHECK ON THE OTHER STASIS CAVES, AND DETERMINE HOW MANY PRISONERS WERE RELEASED.
WE NEED TO ENSURE THAT NO MORE TYPHOS SHOW UP ON HUMAN SHORES.
IF IT WERE UP TO ME, THIS COUNCIL WOULD BE CONCERNING ITSELF WITH THE SEVENTY PERCENT OF THE PLANET THAT ACTUALLY MATTERS-- NOTHING MORE.
THANKFULLY IT IS NOT UP TO YOU, YOUNG ONE.
UGH, THIS VIRYDIS SOUNDS LIKE A NIGHTMARE. I'M DEALING WITH A B**CH AT WORK, TOO.
HIS NAME IS DOUG.
ALWAYS TRYING TO TAKE CREDIT FOR MY WORK. PLUS HE NEVER COVERS HIS FOOD IN THE MICROWAVE, AND IT SPLATTERS EVERYWHERE. HAVE YOU EVER GONE TO HEAT UP YOUR COFFEE ONLY TO HAVE GOULASH ALL OVER THE PLACE?
NOT COOL.
YEAH, I FEEL YOUR PAIN. WHILE YOU'RE WINDEXING AN APPLIANCE, I'LL BE UNDER INVESTIGATION BY THE CLANVALOR.
IS THAT LIKE THE H.R. DEPARTMENT FOR THE BLUE?
YEAH, IF HUMAN RESOURCES EVISCERATED YOU AND DUMPED YOU IN THE MARIANA TRENCH WHEN YOU'RE FOUND GUILTY.

BUT SIPHON IS ON YOUR SIDE, RIGHT? AND IT'S NOT LIKE YOU DID THIS ON PURPOSE. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS FIGURE OUT WHO TURNED THE OTHER KEY FIRST. THEY'RE PROBABLY BEHIND THIS WHOLE THING...RIGHT?
YEAH, THAT'S THE PLAN. BUT WHEN I TRACED IT BACK TO THE BEGINNING, CHANCE WAS THE ONE WHO POINTED ME TOWARDS THE SINKHOLE.
WAIT, YOU DON'T THINK HE...THAT HE WOULD...
NO, I DON'T.
BUT I HAD TO ASK.
I'M DIGGING THE INCOGNITO LOOK - THE HAT AND THE GLASSES ARE REALLY DOING IT FOR ME.
I DON'T KNOW HOW OFTEN YOU GO ON YOOTOOB, BUT THE LAST TIME I WAS DOWNTOWN THINGS GOT A LITTLE... MESSY.
YOU MEAN WHILE YOU WERE FIGHTING THAT TYPHOS GUY?
A LITTLE LOUDER, CHANCE-- I DON'T THINK THE PEOPLE ON THE BEACH HEARD YOU.
NOW OPEN
TWO FREE*
I NEED TO ASK YOU SOMETHING. WHEN I WAS DOWN IN THAT SINKHOLE, THE TYPHOS WARRIOR WASN'T JUST THERE, WAITING FOR ME-- I ACCIDENTALLY RELEASED HIM.
SO I NEED TO KNOW... WHY DID YOU SEND ME THERE?
SORRY, BABE. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION. TOTALLY CLASSIFIED.
CLASSIFIED?
I COULD TELL YOU, BUT I'D HAVE TO KILL YOU.

NERD HEAVEN
COMIC BOOK MEGASTORE
TODAY
SUPER COMIC EVENT
OR, HOW ABOUT THIS: I CAN KILL YOU RIGHT NOW, AND DUMP YOU IN A RIVER. BECAUSE I CAN TOTALLY DO THAT, AND NO ONE WOULD BE ABLE TO STOP ME.
THE MURDER AND THE DUMPING.
HAS ANYONE EVER TOLD YOU THAT THE BLUE HAVE A TENDENCY TOWARDS VIOLENCE?
YES, THAT HAS RECENTLY BEEN BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION.
IT WAS JUST AN ORDER, OKAY? STANDARD, RUN-OF-THE-MILL ORDERS.
FREE ENTRY!
HQ SENT ME THE CO-ORDINATES AND TOLD ME TO PATROL THAT SPECIFIC AREA. I DON'T KNOW WHY, AND I DIDN'T ASK.
THEN I SENT YOU THE HEAD'S UP, JUST LIKE YOU ASKED ME TO DO WHENEVER SOMETHING LOOKED SKETCHY.
I KNOW YOU DON'T LIKE IT WHEN I GO OFF HALF-COCKED.
YEAH, I'M NOT GOING TO WALK INTO THAT ONE.
BEEE-DOOOP
BEEE-DOOOP
BUT IT JUST DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. HOW WOULD SOMEONE IN THE GOVERNMENT EVEN KNOW TO GIVE YOU THOSE CO-ORDINATES--
AND THAT YOU'D SEND ME THE INFORMATION? IT CAN'T BE A COINCIDENCE.
HEY, AREN'T YOU THE ONE ALWAYS SAYING I'M RUDE FOR ANSWERING TEXTS WHILE WE'RE SPENDING QUALITY TIME?
IT'S NOT MY PHONE. IT'S MY GLAIVE.
YOUR WHAT?
MY GLAIVE. IT'S A THREE-BLADED WEAPON THAT I TOOK FROM THE TYPHOS, BUT IT'S...IT'S BEEPING AND FLASHING. AND SAYING SOMETHING?
IT'S A PROXIMITY ALERT.

AND THEN TIME FROZE.
HOLD ON, THE TYPHOID CAN FREEZE TIME?
NOT LITERALLY-- IT WAS A FIGURE OF SPEECH. YOU KNOW: BIG BATTLE ABOUT TO GO DOWN, IMMINENT DANGER, ALL THAT KIND OF STUFF?
OH, RIGHT. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT EPIC BATTLES BETWEEN SUPER HUMANS, IT'S SOMETIMES HARD TO SEPARATE THE LITERAL FROM THE FIGURATIVE.
AH, GOTCHA.
OKAY, SO THEN THE MONSTER CHICK COMES AT YOU...
I NEVER MENTIONED HER HAIR STYLE.
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO. I SAW A BUNCH OF YOUTOOB VIDEOS ABOUT YOUR FIGHT.
ALREADY? IT HAPPENED LIKE FORTY FIVE MINUTES AGO!
AGAIN, YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY FAMILIAR WITH THE INTERNETS, ARE YOU?
SO...WHAT WERE THEY SAYING ABOUT ME?
FREE ENTRY!

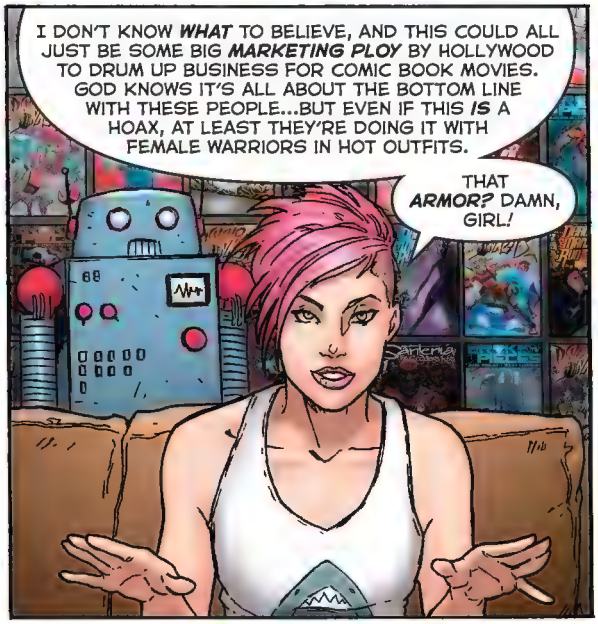
AND WE BEGIN TONIGHT'S RECAP IN *AMERICA.* THE PLACE THAT *USED* TO BE A COUNTRY, AND IS NOW JUST ONE BIG MICHAEL BAY MOVIE.


I DON'T KNOW WHETHER THEY'RE SUPER HUMANS OR CYBORGS OR *WHAT,* BUT THESE TWO LADIES HAD A *BRUTAL* EXCHANGE. THEY WENT INTO *BEAST MODE* AND STARTED BEATING THE BRAKES OFF OF EACH OTHER.
I'D LIKE TO HAVE SEEN THE REDHEAD MIX IN A COUPLE MORE LEG KICKS, BUT OVERALL HER TECHNIQUE LOOKED SOLID.

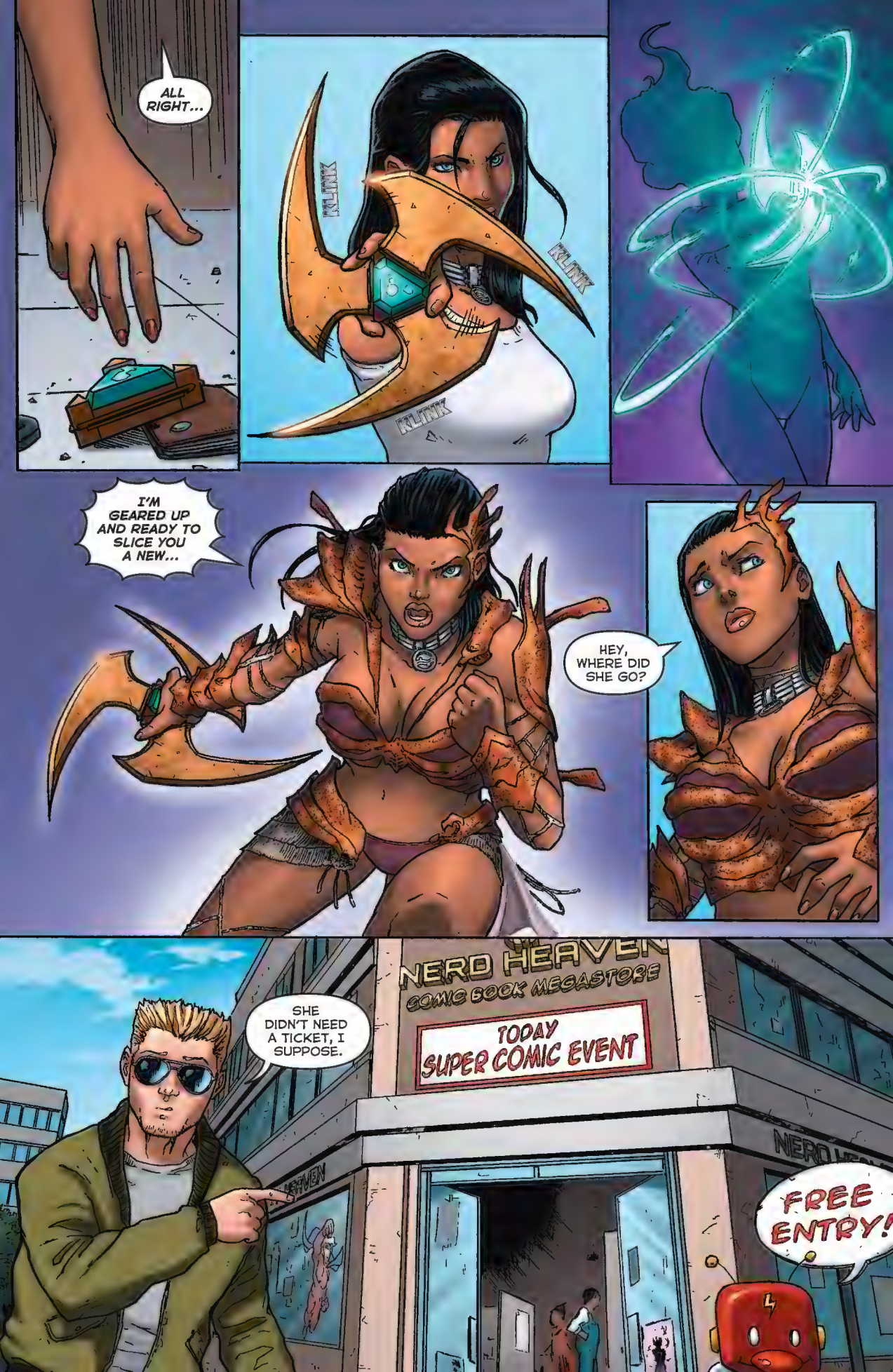
SO NOW WE HAVE *TWO* TERROR ATTACKS IN THE SAME WEEK ON U.S. SOIL-- AND IN THE SAME CITY! THIS IS *MADNESS,* PEOPLE! CLEARLY THESE ARE *FALSE FLAGS* BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO EXPAND THE MILITARY INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX!
AND *WHO KNOWS* WHO ELSE IS INVOLVED?! RUSSIA? NORTH KOREA? GUAM? *CANADA?*

AND ISN'T IT *CONVENIENT* THAT NOT A SINGLE PERSON WAS INJURED IN THAT *LAST* SO-CALLED 'ATTACK'? SURE, IT *LOOKED* LIKE A BUILDING COLLAPSED, BUT WE'VE ALL SEEN WHAT CAN BE DONE WITH CGI THESE DAYS.
AND WHY ISN'T THE GOVERNMENT SAYING *ANYTHING* ABOUT THIS? COULD IT BE THAT IT NEVER HAPPENED?!

BROS... CAN YOU BELIEVE WHAT WE JUST SAW, BROS? I MEAN *COME ON,* BROS!


I DON'T KNOW *WHAT* TO BELIEVE, AND THIS COULD ALL JUST BE SOME BIG *MARKETING PLOY* BY HOLLYWOOD TO DRUM UP BUSINESS FOR COMIC BOOK MOVIES. GOD KNOWS IT'S ALL ABOUT THE BOTTOM LINE WITH THESE PEOPLE...BUT EVEN IF THIS *IS* A HOAX, AT LEAST THEY'RE DOING IT WITH FEMALE WARRIORS IN HOT OUTFITS.
THAT *ARMOR?* DAMN, GIRL!

AGAIN, NOTHING ABOUT HOW HEROIC I WAS, OR HOW I SAVED COUNTLESS... UGH. WHATEVER. SO ON WITH THE STORY...
WHA--
OH. RIGHT.

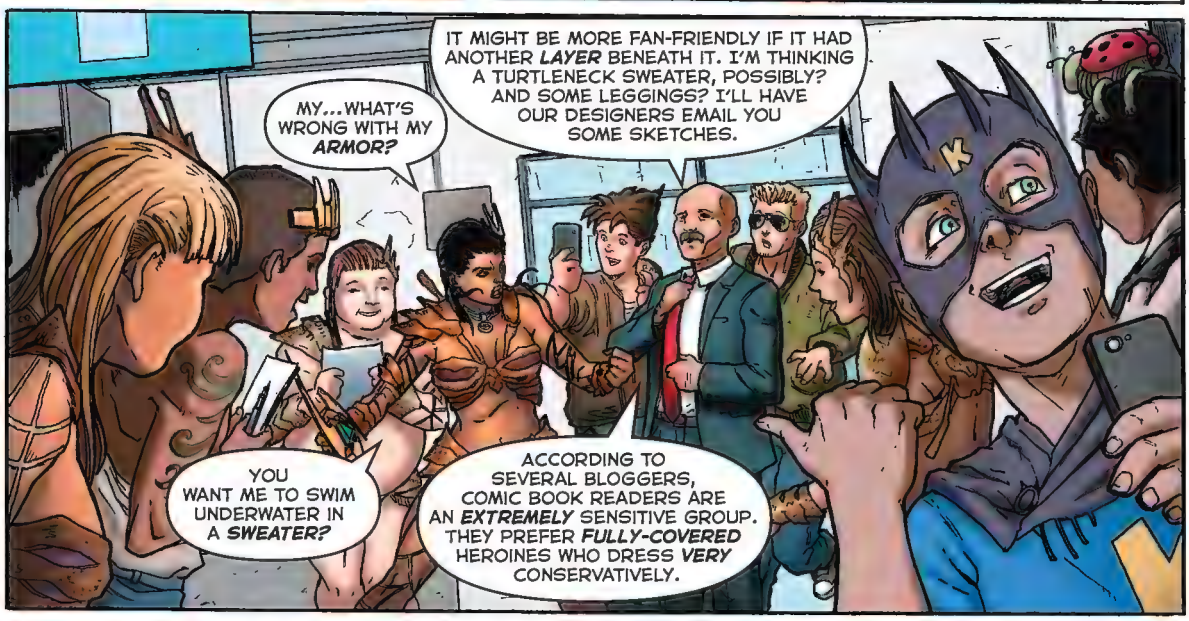

ALL RIGHT...
KLINK
KLINK
KLINK
I'M GEARED UP AND READY TO SLICE YOU A NEW...
HEY, WHERE DID SHE GO?
NERD HEAVEN
COMIC BOOK MEGASTORE
TODAY
SUPER COMIC EVENT
SHE DIDN'T NEED A TICKET, I SUPPOSE.
FREE ENTRY!

STELLA COMICS
ARTIST ALLEY
GREAT.

BREEEE
EEEEEP

FATHOM
WHAT THE HELL JUST HAPPENED? SHE COULD BE *ANYONE.*
EXCUSE ME, MISS? *MISS?!*

YOU'RE *HER*-- THE ONE WHO SAVED SAN DIEGO LAST WEEK.
UH-HUH. LOOK, I'M A LITTLE *BUSY* AT THE MOMENT, BUT--
I'M *CHET REINHOLD* WITH INGENIOUS COMICS, AND WE'D LOVE TO MAKE YOU OUR NEWEST HERO. I'M THINKING BIG: GRAPHIC NOVELS, MERCHANDISE, A SHOW ON THE CWW NETWORK-- THE WHOLE SHMEAR.
IT'S JUST YOUR *OUTFIT...*


IT MIGHT BE MORE FAN-FRIENDLY IF IT HAD ANOTHER *LAYER* BENEATH IT. I'M THINKING A TURTLENECK SWEATER, POSSIBLY? AND SOME LEGGINGS? I'LL HAVE OUR DESIGNERS EMAIL YOU SOME SKETCHES.
MY...WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY *ARMOR?*
YOU WANT ME TO SWIM UNDERWATER IN A *SWEATER?*
ACCORDING TO SEVERAL BLOGGERS, COMIC BOOK READERS ARE AN *EXTREMELY* SENSITIVE GROUP. THEY PREFER *FULLY-COVERED* HEROINES WHO DRESS *VERY* CONSERVATIVELY.

IMAGINE IF WE WERE TO HAVE A WOMAN DRESSED LIKE YOURSELF ON A COVER?
WE'D BE *FLOODED* WITH DOZENS OF ANGRY CHIRPS!

WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS-- WE HAVE TO FIND THIS CHICK BEFORE SHE...

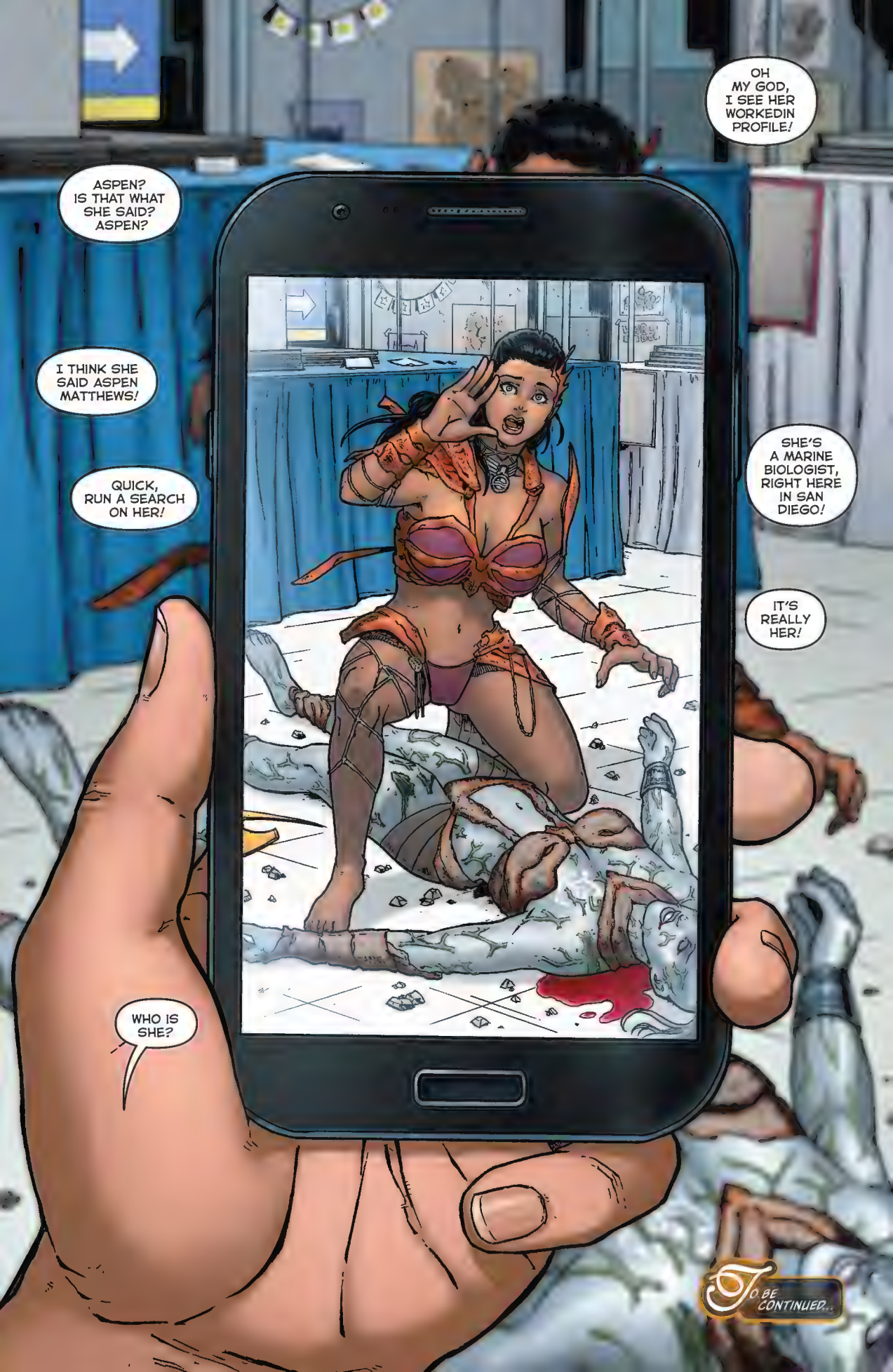
OH...
OUT OF THE WAY, BABE! I'VE GOT THIS!
ARRGGH!
PATHETIC HUMAN!
IF YOU WANT YOUR GLAIVE BACK, YOU CAN *HAVE* IT!
FAMOUS CAR SHOW
HOLY %$#@!
IT WAS IN THE HEAT OF THE MOMENT! NOT EVERY LINE IS GOING TO BE GOLD.

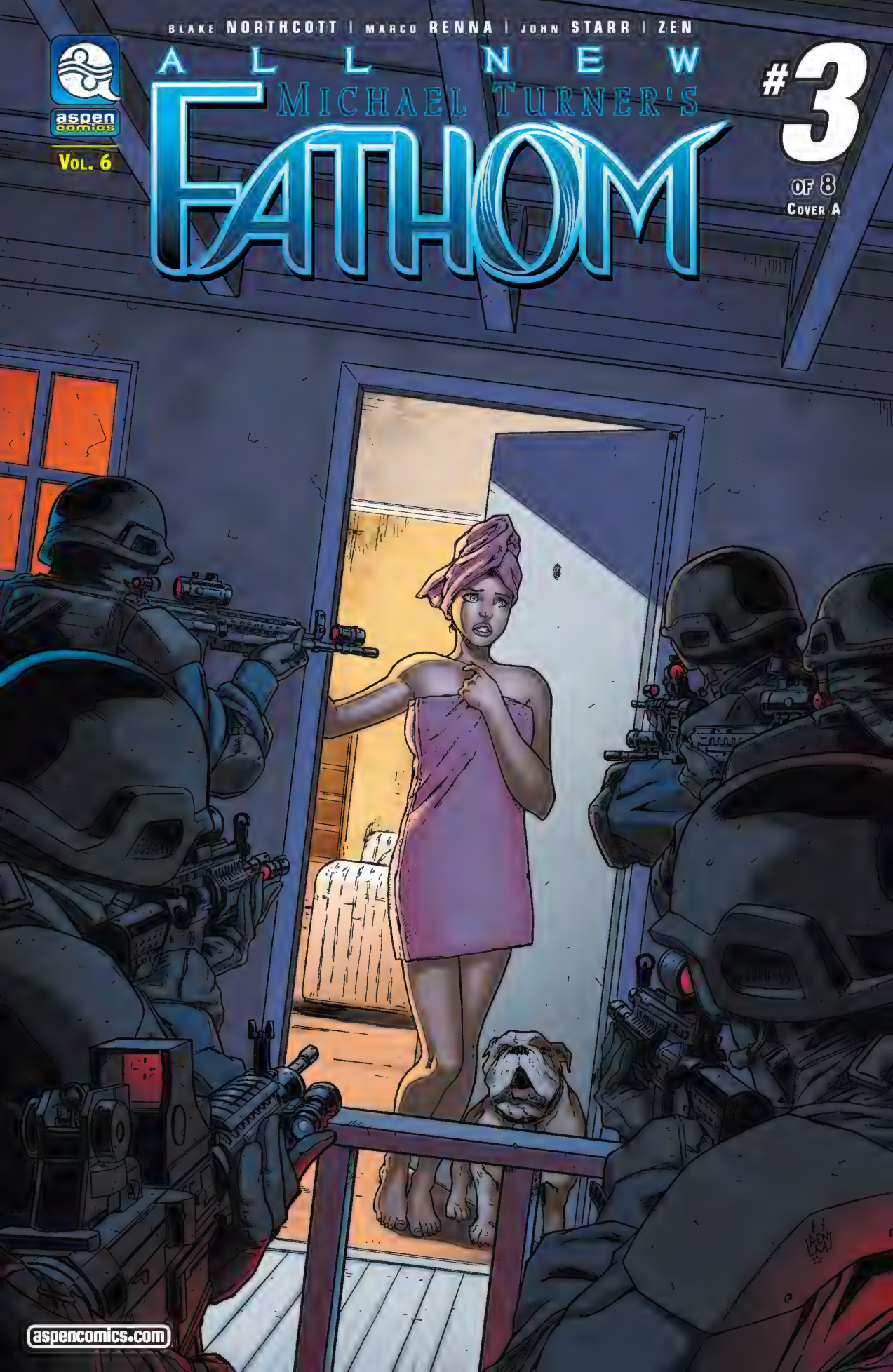
THROWING MY WEAPON AWAY TURNED OUT TO BE A BAD IDEA-- ESPECIALLY SINCE IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT CAN PIERCE THE TYPHOS' SKIN.
89
MAX'S BLADES & MORE!
SO I HAD TO KEEP HER DISTRACTED UNTIL I COULD GET IT BACK.
89
CRACK
CONSIDERING WHAT THEY CHARGE FOR THESE PROPS, YOU'D THINK THEY'D BUILD THEM A LITTLE STURDIER.
89
YOUR QUIPS ARE AMUSING.
WHOK!
MUCH LIKE YOUR FIGHTING SKILLS.

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MA'AM?
SORRY ABOUT YOUR NINE BUCKS, KID, BUT I NEED THIS MORE THAN YOU RIGHT NOW.
DON'T WORRY-- IT'S GOING TO GOOD USE.
THESE MONSTERS EAT BULLETS LIKE CUPCAKES, SO I KNEW A KARKRAH BLAST WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH TO PUT HER DOWN. IT WASN'T EVEN GOING TO LEAVE A BRUISE.
BUT THE TYPHOS DON'T THINK-- THEY REACT. AND HER ATTENTION WAS AVERTED FOR JUST LONG ENOUGH.

I FOUND IT!
BABE! HEAD'S UP!
GOTCHA.
THE TYPHOS INSTINCTIVELY DUCKED TO AVOID THE KILL SHOT. SHE ANTICIPATED IT, BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT SHE WOULD'VE GONE FOR.
AHHRRRGGHHHHH!
SKRT
A QUICK SLASH TO THE JUGULAR. BRUTAL. PRECISE. NO HESITATION. SHE WOULD'VE HAD NO PROBLEM TAKING ME OUT.
I HAD OTHER PLANS.
SHE WAS ALREADY DISABLED.
THWOCK!
THE FOLLOW-UP PUNCH WAS JUST ICING.
THUD

WHO SENT YOU? WHO IS BEHIND ALL OF THIS?!
KAFF NEVER... DEATH... FIRST...
TALK!
GNYAAHH!
COME ON, YOU DON'T NEED TO DO THIS. YOU'RE GOING TOO FAR...
THIS CONCERNS THE BLUE, NOT THE U.S. NAVY, CHANCE! FOR ONCE JUST STAY OUT OF THIS!
BREEEEP-BOOP
DAMN IT, NOT AGAIN!
YOU WILL NEVER FIND THE FAILSAFE, ASPEN MATTHEWS.
YOU... WILL LOSE.
THIS WAR... IS ALREADY...


OH MY GOD, I SEE HER WORKEDIN PROFILE!
ASPEN? IS THAT WHAT SHE SAID? ASPEN?
I THINK SHE SAID ASPEN MATTHEWS!
QUICK, RUN A SEARCH ON HER!
SHE'S A MARINE BIOLOGIST, RIGHT HERE IN SAN DIEGO!
IT'S REALLY HER!
WHO IS SHE?
TO BE CONTINUED...


BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
VOL. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#3
OF 8
COVER A
aspencomics.com

BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
VOL. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#3
OF 8
COVER B
aspencomics.com

PREVIOUSLY IN:

Aspen Matthews discovered that The Elite Council did not share her impulse to act upon the sudden arrival of The Typhos, a brutal and deadly sect of The Blue. And worse yet, suspicions were thrown her way. However, the diplomacy under the surface was nothing compared to the threat above the surface, as Aspen was once again attacked in broad daylight by The Typhos, for all of social media to see...

ASPEN COMICS PRESENTS

All New Fathom

PART 3 of 8

Blake Northcott
writer

Marco Renna
pencils

Mark Roslan
digital inks

John Starr
colors

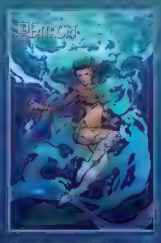
Zen
letters

Vince Hernandez, Gabe Carrasco - editors

Mark Roslan, Peter Steigerwald, Gabe Carrasco - design & production

Direct Edition
Marco Renna
John Starr

Direct Edition
Marco Lorenzana
Justice



Retailer Incentive Edition
Randy Green
Peter Steigerwald

WonderCon 2017
Exclusive Limited Edition of 200
Jordan Gunderson
Peter Steigerwald

FATHOM CREATED BY MICHAEL TURNER

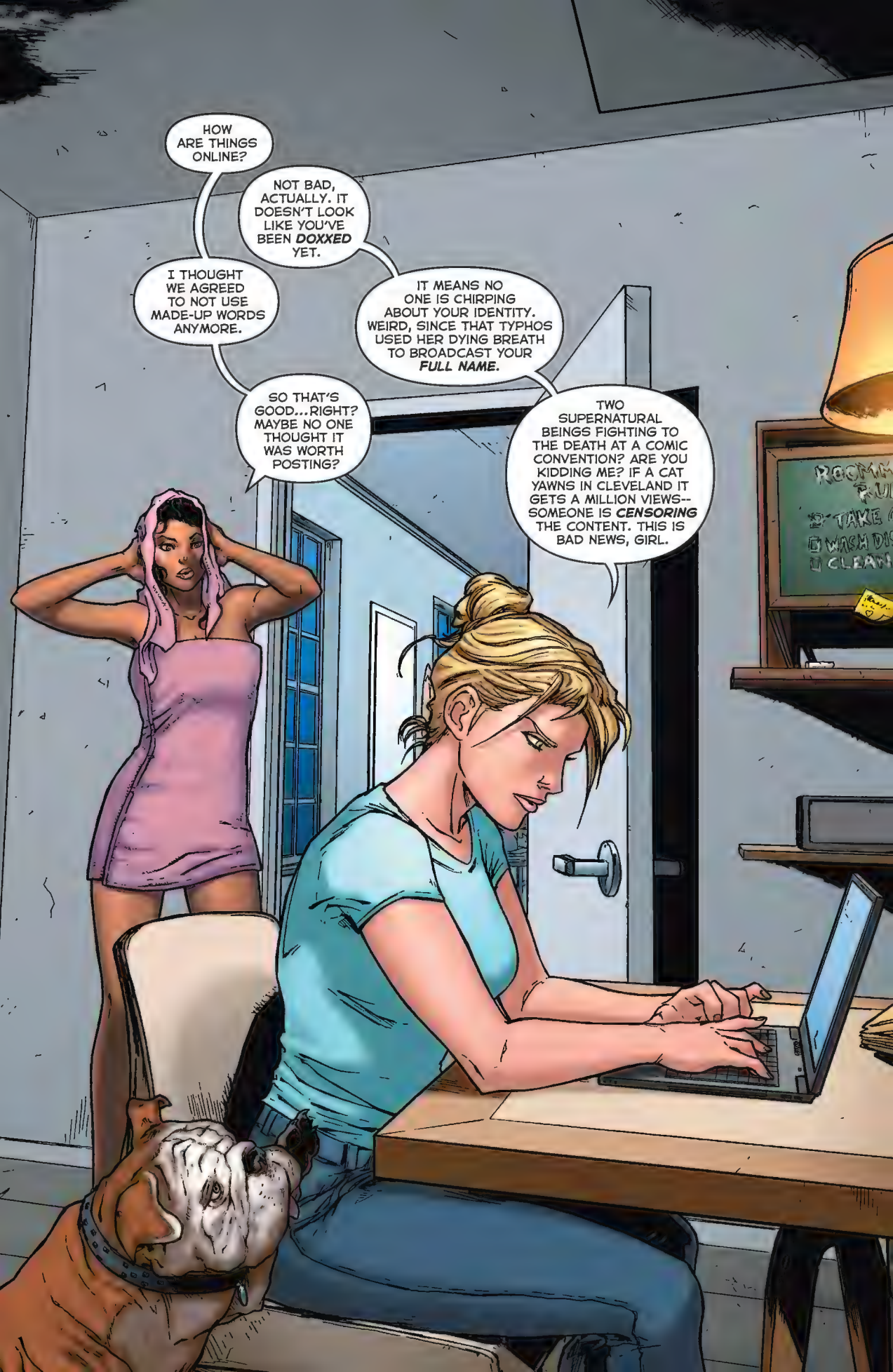
For Aspen: Founder: Michael Turner Co-Owner: Peter Steigerwald Co-Owner/President: Frank Mastromauro
Vice President/Editor in Chief: Vince Hernandez Vice President/Design and Production: Mark Roslan
Editorial Assistant: Gabe Carrasco Office Manager: Megan Madrigal AspenStore.com: Chris Rupp

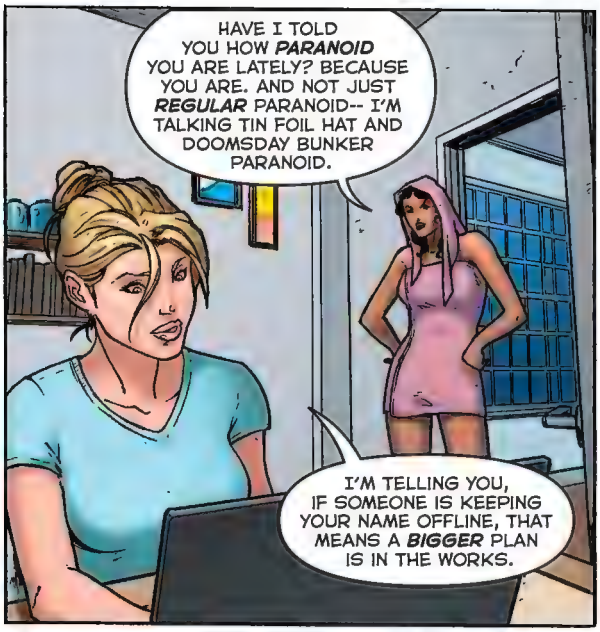
ALL NEW MICHAEL TURNER'S FATHOM™ Vol. 6 Issue 3 APRIL 2017. DIGITAL COPY.

Published by Aspen MLT, Inc., Office of Publication: 5701 W. Slauson Ave. Suite. 120, Culver City, CA 90230. The Aspen MLT, Inc. logo® is a registered trademark of Aspen MLT, Inc. All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ and the All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ logo, are the trademarks of Aspen MLT, Inc. The entire contents of this book, all artwork, characters and their likenesses are © 2017 Aspen MLT, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Any similarities between names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with persons living or dead or institutions is unintended and is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this book may be reprinted, reproduced or transmitted by any means or in any form without the express written consent of Aspen MLT, Inc.

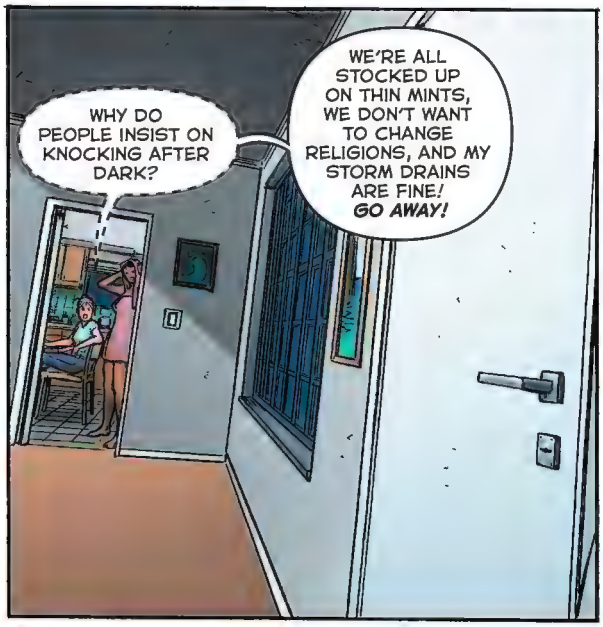
Visit us on the web at WWW.ASPENCOMICS.COM
Find us on Facebook at FACEBOOK.COM/ASPENCOMICS
Follow us on Twitter at TWITTER.COM/ASPENCOMICS
For more Aspen Comics go to WWW.ASPENSTORE.COM

FOR THE COMICS RETAILER NEAREST YOU CALL: 1888-COMIC-BOOK » INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS REPRESENTATIVE: KELLY MASTROMAURO (PUBLISHING@ASPENCOMICS.COM)

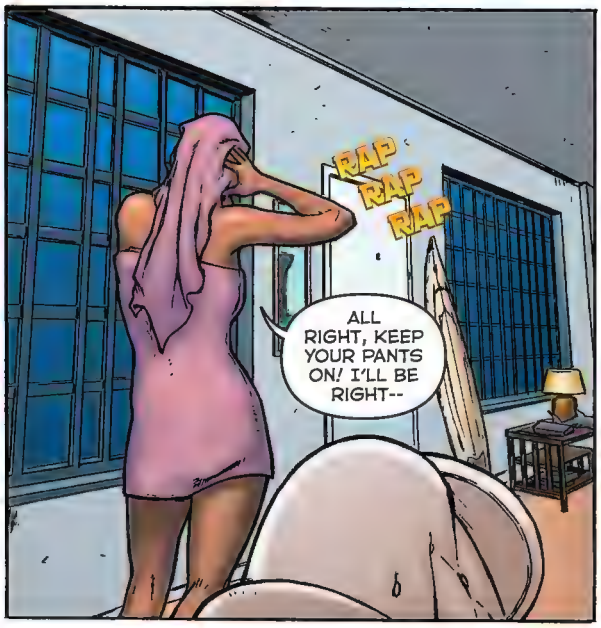

HOW ARE THINGS ONLINE?
NOT BAD, ACTUALLY. IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE YOU'VE BEEN DOXXED YET.
I THOUGHT WE AGREED TO NOT USE MADE-UP WORDS ANYMORE.
IT MEANS NO ONE IS CHIRPING ABOUT YOUR IDENTITY. WEIRD, SINCE THAT TYPHOS USED HER DYING BREATH TO BROADCAST YOUR FULL NAME.
SO THAT'S GOOD...RIGHT? MAYBE NO ONE THOUGHT IT WAS WORTH POSTING?
TWO SUPERNATURAL BEINGS FIGHTING TO THE DEATH AT A COMIC CONVENTION? ARE YOU KIDDING ME? IF A CAT YAWNS IN CLEVELAND IT GETS A MILLION VIEWS-- SOMEONE IS CENSORING THE CONTENT. THIS IS BAD NEWS, GIRL.


HAVE I TOLD YOU HOW ***PARANOID*** YOU ARE LATELY? BECAUSE YOU ARE. AND NOT JUST ***REGULAR*** PARANOID-- I'M TALKING TIN FOIL HAT AND DOOMSDAY BUNKER PARANOID.
I'M TELLING YOU, IF SOMEONE IS KEEPING YOUR NAME OFFLINE, THAT MEANS A ***BIGGER*** PLAN IS IN THE WORKS.

WELL THE COMIC CON ENDED ***HOURS*** AGO, AND I HAVEN'T BEEN ARRESTED OR SHOT. SO THAT'S SOMETHING.
RAP RAP RAP


WHY DO PEOPLE INSIST ON KNOCKING AFTER DARK?
WE'RE ALL STOCKED UP ON THIN MINTS, WE DON'T WANT TO CHANGE RELIGIONS, AND MY STORM DRAINS ARE FINE! ***GO AWAY!***

I FORGOT TO TELL YOU, THE THIN MINTS ARE GONE.
BEHOLD MY SHOCK. THIS IS MY SHOCKED FACE.


RAP RAP RAP
ALL RIGHT, KEEP YOUR PANTS ON! I'LL BE RIGHT--

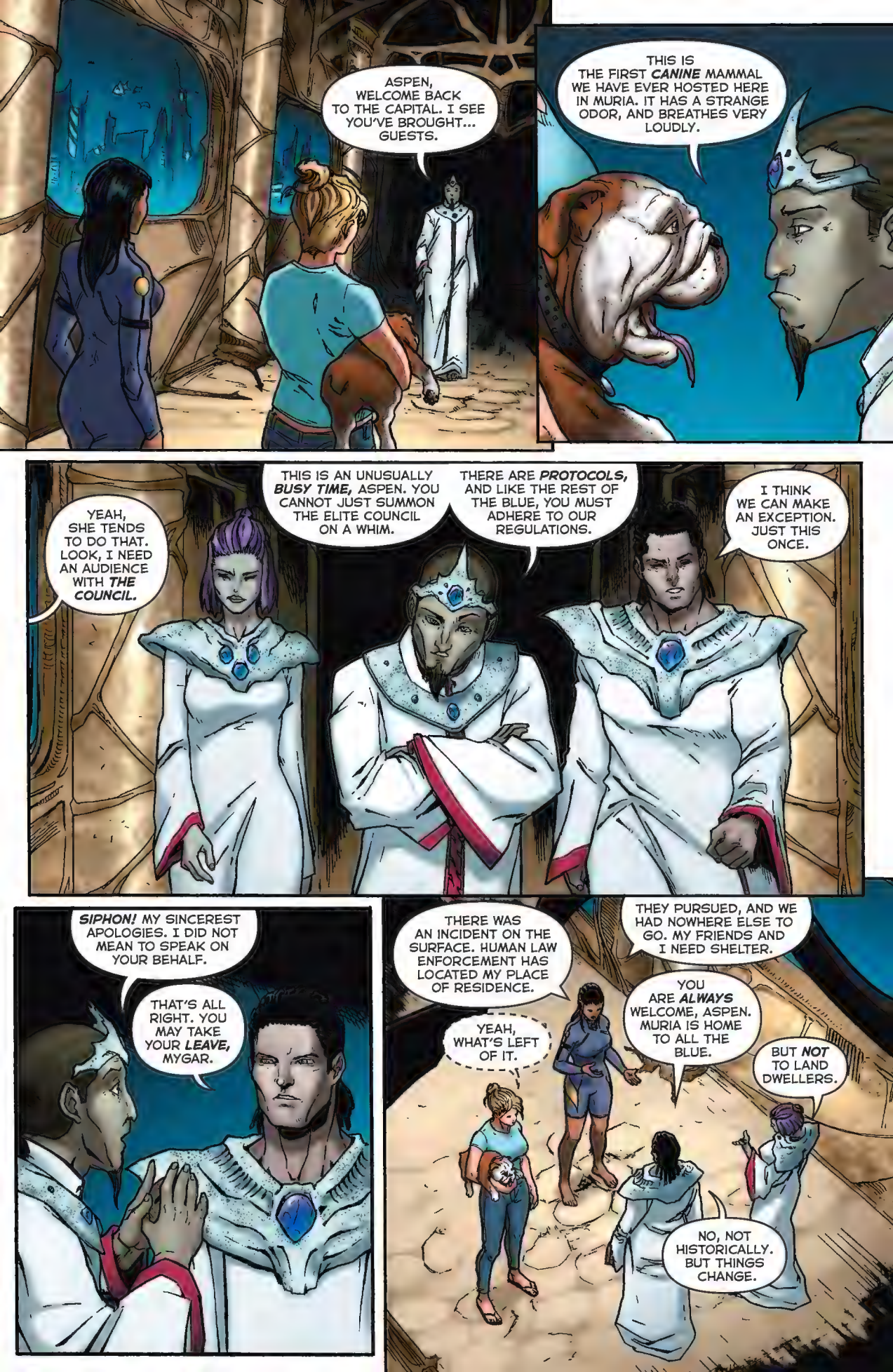
OHHHHH $#!* WAFFLES.

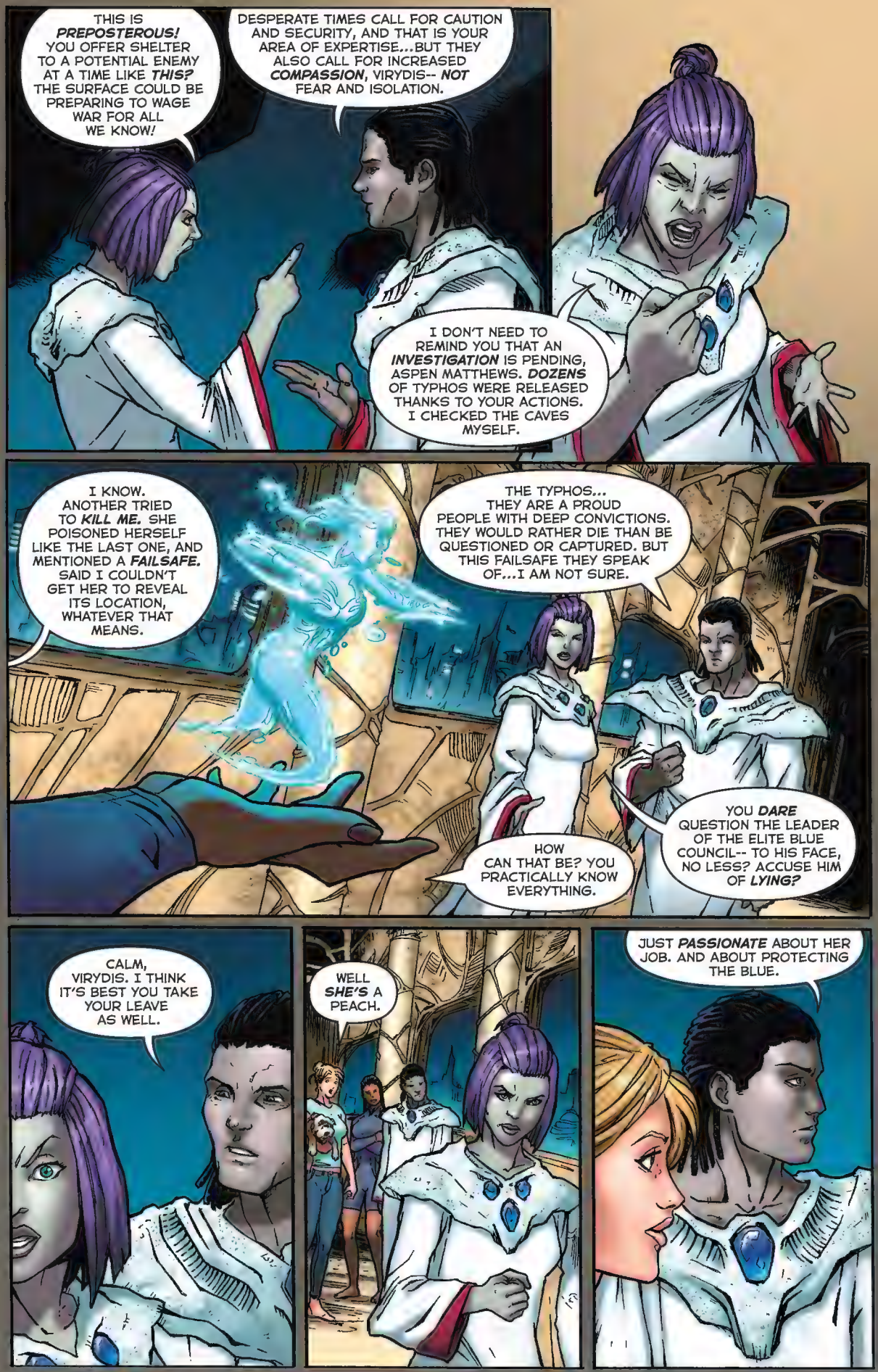
REMEMBER WHEN YOU SAID THAT I HAVEN'T BEEN DOXXED YET, AND THAT IT WAS ACTUALLY A BAD SIGN, AND I SAID YOU WERE CRAZY AND PARANOID?
YOU MEAN ELEVEN SECONDS AGO?
A LOT HAS HAPPENED SINCE THEN.
THOSE AREN'T GIRL SCOUTS ON OUR PORCH, ARE THEY?
DAMMIT! I NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE, BUT IF I PULL THE TIDE FROM THE OCEAN, THE WAVE COULD FLATTEN OUR HOUSE...ALONG WITH EVERYONE ON THE PORCH.
TY, ARE YOU ALL PAID UP ON HOUSE INSURANCE? YOU KNOW, FOR STUFF LIKE HURRICANES, FIRES... FLOODS?
YEAH, WHY?

OH, COME ON!
KROOOOOOSHHH
ASPEN MATTHEWS, WE KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE! COME OUT WITH YOUR HANDS UP!
I HAVE TO GO. STAY HERE, TAKE CARE OF MATILDA. YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING-- YOU'LL BE FINE.
FINE? LIKE AIDING AND ABETTING A SUPER HUMAN? THAT KIND OF FINE?
I CAN'T ASK YOU TO GET EVEN MORE INVOLVED THAN YOU ALREADY ARE.
IF YOU HAD TO ASK, WE WOULDN'T BE FRIENDS. I'M COMING.
GET MATILDA.
READY?
NOT EVEN REMOTELY.

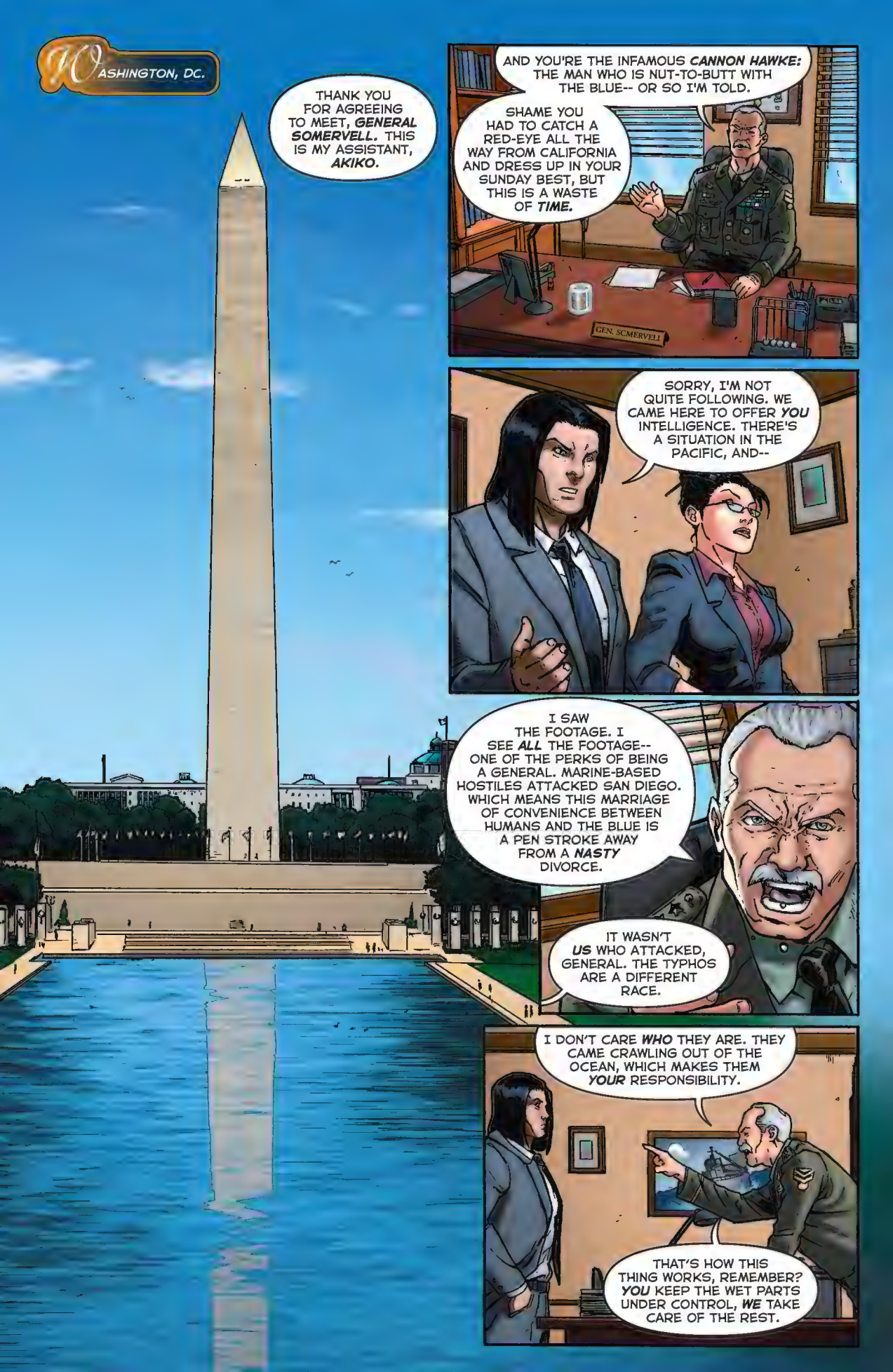
THIS IS YOUR FINAL WARNING! COME OUT IN FIVE SECONDS, OR--
KARRRR

JUST TRY TO BREATHE NORMALLY! I'LL ADJUST THE PRESSURE AS WE DESCEND!
OKAY, FINE, BUT WHERE ARE YOU TAKING US?!
HOME.
LATER.
MURIA, CAPITAL CITY OF THE BLUE.
WE HAVE TO WAIT HERE UNTIL WE'RE ADMITTED BY AN EMISSARY.
NOT BIG ON HOSPITALITY, ARE THEY?
THEY'RE JUST CAUTIOUS. THINGS ARE COMPLICATED BETWEEN HUMANS AND BLUE AT THE BEST OF TIMES--
WITH EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED LATELY, I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY'LL REACT TO ONE CRASHING THE CAPITAL UNANNOUNCED.
DO WE HAVE TO CALL SOMEONE?
TRUST ME, THEY ALREADY KNOW WE'RE HERE.


ASPEN, WELCOME BACK TO THE CAPITAL. I SEE YOU'VE BROUGHT... GUESTS.
THIS IS THE FIRST *CANINE* MAMMAL WE HAVE EVER HOSTED HERE IN MURIA. IT HAS A STRANGE ODOR, AND BREATHES VERY LOUDLY.
YEAH, SHE TENDS TO DO THAT. LOOK, I NEED AN AUDIENCE WITH *THE COUNCIL.*
THIS IS AN UNUSUALLY *BUSY TIME,* ASPEN. YOU CANNOT JUST SUMMON THE ELITE COUNCIL ON A WHIM.
THERE ARE *PROTOCOLS,* AND LIKE THE REST OF THE BLUE, YOU MUST ADHERE TO OUR REGULATIONS.
I THINK WE CAN MAKE AN EXCEPTION. JUST THIS ONCE.
SIPHON! MY SINCEREST APOLOGIES. I DID NOT MEAN TO SPEAK ON YOUR BEHALF.
THAT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU MAY TAKE YOUR *LEAVE,* MYGAR.
THERE WAS AN INCIDENT ON THE SURFACE. HUMAN LAW ENFORCEMENT HAS LOCATED MY PLACE OF RESIDENCE.
THEY PURSUED, AND WE HAD NOWHERE ELSE TO GO. MY FRIENDS AND I NEED SHELTER.
YEAH, WHAT'S LEFT OF IT.
YOU ARE *ALWAYS* WELCOME, ASPEN. MURIA IS HOME TO ALL THE BLUE.
BUT *NOT* TO LAND DWELLERS.
NO, NOT HISTORICALLY. BUT THINGS CHANGE.


THIS IS PREPOSTEROUS! YOU OFFER SHELTER TO A POTENTIAL ENEMY AT A TIME LIKE THIS? THE SURFACE COULD BE PREPARING TO WAGE WAR FOR ALL WE KNOW!
DESPERATE TIMES CALL FOR CAUTION AND SECURITY, AND THAT IS YOUR AREA OF EXPERTISE...BUT THEY ALSO CALL FOR INCREASED COMPASSION, VIRYDIS-- NOT FEAR AND ISOLATION.
I DON'T NEED TO REMIND YOU THAT AN INVESTIGATION IS PENDING, ASPEN MATTHEWS. DOZENS OF TYPHOS WERE RELEASED THANKS TO YOUR ACTIONS. I CHECKED THE CAVES MYSELF.
I KNOW. ANOTHER TRIED TO KILL ME. SHE POISONED HERSELF LIKE THE LAST ONE, AND MENTIONED A FAILSAFE. SAID I COULDN'T GET HER TO REVEAL ITS LOCATION, WHATEVER THAT MEANS.
THE TYPHOS... THEY ARE A PROUD PEOPLE WITH DEEP CONVICTIONS. THEY WOULD RATHER DIE THAN BE QUESTIONED OR CAPTURED. BUT THIS FAILSAFE THEY SPEAK OF...I AM NOT SURE.
HOW CAN THAT BE? YOU PRACTICALLY KNOW EVERYTHING.
YOU DARE QUESTION THE LEADER OF THE ELITE BLUE COUNCIL-- TO HIS FACE, NO LESS? ACCUSE HIM OF LYING?
CALM, VIRYDIS. I THINK IT'S BEST YOU TAKE YOUR LEAVE AS WELL.
WELL SHE'S A PEACH.
JUST PASSIONATE ABOUT HER JOB. AND ABOUT PROTECTING THE BLUE.

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO FOR YOU?
I TOOK THIS FROM THE TYPHOS WARRIOR BEFORE SHE DIED. HAVE YOU SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT BEFORE?
NOW THIS IS SOMETHING I AM FAMILIAR WITH. STEALTH TECHNOLOGY TO MASK ONE'S APPEARANCE, MAKING THE WEARER APPEAR AS THEY WISH. IT IS FROM LONG BEFORE MY TIME- I WASN'T AWARE THAT THERE WERE ANY MORE IN EXISTENCE.
SOME CEPHALOPODS CAN CAMOUFLAGE THEMSELVES IN AN INSTANT, MIMICKING THEIR SURROUNDINGS-- OR EVEN OTHER PREDATORS. THIS TECHNOLOGY IS PROBABLY NOT FAR OFF.
I STUDIED BIOMOLECULAR NANOPHOTONIC SYSTEMS AS AN UNDERGRAD.
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?
NOW WHO'S MAKING UP WORDS?
THE TYPHOS USED THESE FREQUENTLY, FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND-- CLEVER TOOLS TO INFILTRATE AND DECEIVE. IT'S HOW THEY SNUCK INSIDE MURIA THE FIRST TIME. AFTER WE WON THE WAR, THEY WERE BANNED BY THE BLUE FOR ETHICAL REASONS.
WITH THESE BRACELETS BACK IN CIRCULATION, YOU NEVER KNOW WHO YOU'LL COME FACE-TO-FACE WITH.


WASHINGTON, DC.
THANK YOU FOR AGREEING TO MEET, GENERAL SOMERVELL. THIS IS MY ASSISTANT, AKIKO.
AND YOU'RE THE INFAMOUS CANNON HAWKE: THE MAN WHO IS NUT-TO-BUTT WITH THE BLUE-- OR SO I'M TOLD.
SHAME YOU HAD TO CATCH A RED-EYE ALL THE WAY FROM CALIFORNIA AND DRESS UP IN YOUR SUNDAY BEST, BUT THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME.
GEN. SOMERVELL
SORRY, I'M NOT QUITE FOLLOWING. WE CAME HERE TO OFFER YOU INTELLIGENCE. THERE'S A SITUATION IN THE PACIFIC, AND--
I SAW THE FOOTAGE. I SEE ALL THE FOOTAGE-- ONE OF THE PERKS OF BEING A GENERAL. MARINE-BASED HOSTILES ATTACKED SAN DIEGO. WHICH MEANS THIS MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE BETWEEN HUMANS AND THE BLUE IS A PEN STROKE AWAY FROM A NASTY DIVORCE.
IT WASN'T US WHO ATTACKED, GENERAL. THE TYPHOS ARE A DIFFERENT RACE.
I DON'T CARE WHO THEY ARE. THEY CAME CRAWLING OUT OF THE OCEAN, WHICH MAKES THEM YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.
THAT'S HOW THIS THING WORKS, REMEMBER? YOU KEEP THE WET PARTS UNDER CONTROL, WE TAKE CARE OF THE REST.

CAN YOU BRING UP A SAT FEED?
WHY WOULD I DO THAT?
31°22'44 73"N. 140°26' 22 25"W
BECAUSE IF YOU'LL INDULGE ME FOR A MOMENT, I HAVE A FEELING YOU HAVEN'T SEEN WHAT *I'M* ABOUT TO SHOW YOU. USE THIS LONGITUDE AND LATITUDE.
YOU'VE GOT NINETY SECONDS BEFORE I WALK OUT MY DOOR. ***ASTONISH ME,*** MISTER HAWKE.
THERMALS WON'T SPOT THEM. SCAN FOR ***BIOLUMINESCENCE***-- THAT SHOULD PICK UP ON THEIR CORNEAS.
WHAT AM I LOOKING AT?
SEE THIS CLUSTER? MEET THE ***TYPHOS***. THERE ARE DOZENS, WITH MORE ON THE WAY. THEY'RE LIKE US, BUT UNSTABLE. AND MUCH MORE ***AGGRESSIVE.***
I LIKE 'EM ALREADY.
YOU WON'T LIKE THEM WHEN THEY LAUNCH A ***FULL-SCALE*** ATTACK ON THE PACIFIC COAST. SAN DIEGO WAS JUST THE BEGINNING.
WHAT DO YOU PROPOSE?
A LOCKDOWN. EXTRA SECURITY ON ALL COASTAL CITIES UNTIL THE BLUE CAN CONTAIN THE SITUATION.
I'LL INITIATE THE PROTOCOLS AS A ***BACK-UP,*** BUT YOUR FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE HAD BETTER NOT SANDBAG IT OUT THERE.
IF EVEN ***ONE*** MORE OF THESE TYPHOS CREATURES STEPS FOOT ON AMERICAN SOIL, OUR TREATY IS GOING IN MY SHREDDER.
GEN SCMERVELI

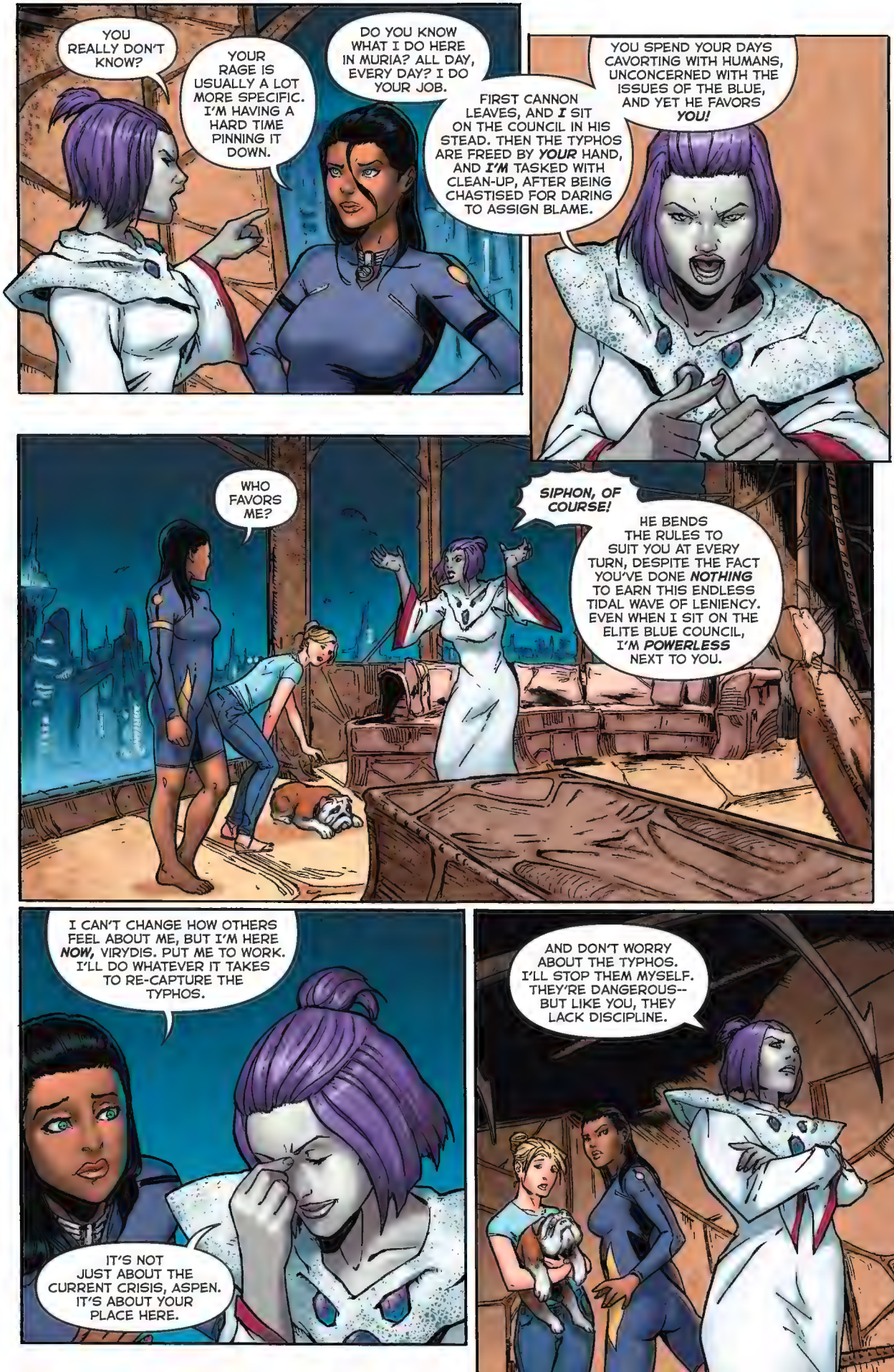
NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I HAVE MILLIONS OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS TO WASTE CLEANING UP YOUR MESS.
MAKE IT QUICK.
I'LL CATCH UP WITH YOU IN THE LOBBY-- I FORGOT MY PHONE.
Scan Complete

UGH...I DON'T FEEL SO WELL ASPEN. KIND OF LIGHT-HEADED.
IT'S A FORM OF DECOMPRESSION SICKNESS. MURIA CAN HOST MAMMALS FOR SHORT PERIODS OF TIME, BUT IT'S NOT EXACTLY ACCLIMATIZED FOR YOU-- OR FOR MATILDA.
WHIMPER
I'VE CONFERRED WITH THE COUNCIL. WE'RE GOING TO MOVE YOU.
MOVE US?
WE HAVE AN ALLY LIVING NEARBY. RILEY J. MOSS IS A FRIEND OF THE BLUE, AND HAS AGREED TO HOST YOU FOR AS LONG AS YOU NEED.
MOSS...YOU MEAN THE ELECTRIC CAR GUY? ISN'T HE A NOTORIOUS RECLUSE WHO HATES PEOPLE?
HE IS. LUCKILY, WE'RE NOT HIS PEOPLE-- STRICTLY SPEAKING.
HE'S ACTUALLY QUITE PLEASANT ONCE YOU GET TO KNOW HIM. HE OWNS TINIHANGA ISLAND, WHICH IS JUST A FEW HUNDRED MILES NORTH-EAST OF NEW ZEALAND. WE CAN HAVE YOU THERE IN NO TIME.
I WONDER WHEN WE'LL BE ABLE TO RETURN HOME.
WHEN TENSIONS HAVE EASED, AND THE TYPHOS HAVE BEEN RE-CONTAINED. WE HAVE A LIAISON IN WASHINGTON CONFERRING WITH THE AMERICANS.
HOPEFULLY IT WILL YIELD SOME POSITIVE RESULTS.

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.
DON'T WORRY, TYLER. I'M SURE THINGS ON THE SURFACE WILL START SIMMERING DOWN.
YEAH, BECAUSE US HUMANS ARE FAMOUS FOR STAYING CALM UNDER PRESSURE.
COOL
@ChrisSuperplex
Things are tense AF downtown! Military just rolled in with tanks and they're swarming the beach.
@SwiftFan4Lyfe
Saw one from LA, Portland, Seattle. It's all up the coast. They've gotta be expecting an attack, so why go to all the trouble?
@DarthH8er
I hope this isn't the new normal. I want to live to 30, not a warzone. :(
CLOSED
@melinabunny_xx
That Aspen woman was here to protect us from both attacks. Maybe she can keep us safe?
@Sadquatch
Hey @melinabunny_xx you need to WAKE UP. We shouldn't be waiting on the beach for another attack or relying on some freak. I'm starting a petition military should go into the Pacific and #ShootFirst
@BethanyMartin88
I agree, @Sadquatch. Soon, I'll be in all of them. Send a link and I'll be the first to sign #ShootFirst

LATER.
THE PEOPLE ARE STRANGE AND THE FOOD ISN'T EVEN REMOTELY EDIBLE, BUT DAMN I'M GOING TO MISS THIS VIEW. IT'S BEEN COZY HERE THE LAST FEW DAYS. ALMOST AS COZY AS THAT PILE OF KINDLING THAT USED TO BE OUR BEACH HOUSE.
YOU'RE NOT LETTING THAT GO ANYTIME SOON, ARE YOU?
NOT IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, NO.
I'M SO SORRY.
FOR WHAT?
FOR WHAT? FOR DESTROYING OUR HOME! FOR TURNING US INTO FUGITIVES! FOR TAKING YOU AND OUR DOG TO A GIANT BUBBLE CITY AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FREAKING PACIFIC!
LOOK, YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO ME. I'M A BIG GIRL, AND I CHOSE TO BE HERE-- TO BE WITH YOU. IF THE SITUATION WERE REVERSED YOU'D HAVE DONE THE SAME.
I'M LITERALLY A HOME WRECKER. A WRECKER OF HOMES.
YOU THINK I CARE ABOUT THE BEACH HOUSE? 'HOME' IS YOU AND ME AND THIS DOG THAT DESPERATELY NEEDS A BATH... IT'S NOT A GIANT BOX MADE OF WOOD AND BRICKS, FILLED WITH CRAP WE ORDERED FROM AMAZON.

THANK YOU FOR SAYING THAT. BUT I KNOW YOU MISS YOUR BED AND YOUR LAPTOP. NOT TO MENTION YOUR EIGHT HUNDRED THREAD-COUNT SHEETS.
NOT GONNA LIE, I MISS SAN DIEGO. BUT WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER.
I'VE RETURNED FROM THE SURFACE. YOUR ACCOMMODATIONS WITH OUR HUMAN ALLY HAVE BEEN ARRANGED, AND YOU'RE TO LEAVE *IMMEDIATELY*. I'LL ESCORT YOU TO THE TRANSPORT MYSELF.
AH, VIRYDIS. I THINK WE'LL MISS YOU MOST OF ALL.
ARE YOU MOCKING ME? IS SHE *MOCKING* ME?
I KNOW YOU GUYS RUN A TIGHT SHIP DOWN HERE, BUT ARE JOKES *ILLEGAL* IN MURIA?
SHE *IS* MOCKING ME! THAT WAS HUMAN SARCASM!
UP ON THE SURFACE WE JUST CALL IT *'SARCASM'*.
WHY DO YOU *ALWAYS* HAVE IT OUT FOR ME?


YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW?
YOUR RAGE IS USUALLY A LOT MORE SPECIFIC. I'M HAVING A HARD TIME PINNING IT DOWN.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT I DO HERE IN MURIA? ALL DAY, EVERY DAY? I DO YOUR JOB.
FIRST CANNON LEAVES, AND *I* SIT ON THE COUNCIL IN HIS STEAD. THEN THE TYPHOS ARE FREED BY *YOUR* HAND, AND *I'M* TASKED WITH CLEAN-UP, AFTER BEING CHASTISED FOR DARING TO ASSIGN BLAME.
YOU SPEND YOUR DAYS CAVORTING WITH HUMANS, UNCONCERNED WITH THE ISSUES OF THE BLUE, AND YET HE FAVORS *YOU!*
WHO FAVORS ME?
SIPHON, OF COURSE!
HE BENDS THE RULES TO SUIT YOU AT EVERY TURN, DESPITE THE FACT YOU'VE DONE *NOTHING* TO EARN THIS ENDLESS TIDAL WAVE OF LENIENCY. EVEN WHEN I SIT ON THE ELITE BLUE COUNCIL, I'M *POWERLESS* NEXT TO YOU.
I CAN'T CHANGE HOW OTHERS FEEL ABOUT ME, BUT I'M HERE *NOW,* VIRYDIS. PUT ME TO WORK. I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO RE-CAPTURE THE TYPHOS.
IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE CURRENT CRISIS, ASPEN. IT'S ABOUT YOUR PLACE HERE.
AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE TYPHOS. I'LL STOP THEM MYSELF. THEY'RE DANGEROUS-- BUT LIKE YOU, THEY LACK DISCIPLINE.

I KNOW THEIR MINDSET. LEFT TO THEIR OWN DEVICES, THEY'LL TEAR THEMSELVES APART.
KLANG! KRANG!
KLOOONG!
GAACCKKK

VERY IMPRESSIVE, AGATTEN, BUT I THINK WE'VE SEEN ENOUGH. SAVE YOUR VENOM FOR THE REAL ENEMIES.
THIS POINTLESS INFIGHTING NEEDS TO END.
THEY ARE LEGION. FOR EVERY TYPHOS, THERE ARE A HUNDRED BLUE.
WHICH IS WHY WE NEED TO BIDE OUR TIME UNTIL THE ATTACK. TO WEAKEN THEM, WE MUST FIRST STRIKE AT THEIR HEART. THE ELITE BLOODLINES.

AND ONCE I HAVE MY HANDS ON THE HEIR APPARENT, ASPEN MATTHEWS, THE REST WILL CRUMBLE.
TO BE CONTINUED...

BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
VOL. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#4
OF 8
COVER A
aspencomics.com

aspen comics
Vol. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#4
OF 8
Cover B
Daily Tribune
WANTED
aspencomics.com

aspen comics
Vol. 3
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#4
OF 8
COVER C
MICHAEL CALERO!
aspencomics.com

BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
VOL. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#4
OF 8
COVER D
aspencomics.com

PREVIOUSLY IN:

Aspen and Tyler were forced to escape their beach house after a surprise visit from the SDPD Swat Team. However, their stay as guests under the surface in the capitol city of Muria doesn't go quite as planned—as the pair immediately clashed with the Elite Council's Virydis over the best way to handle the rise of The Typhos. Meanwhile, unbeknownst to all of them, an even greater threat emerged to challenge The Blue's existence—Cannon Hawke...

All New Fathom

PART 4 of 6

Blake Northcott
writer

Marco Renna
pencils

Mark Roslan
digital inks

John Starr
colors

Zen
letters

Vince Hernandez, Gabe Carrasco *-editors*

Mark Roslan, Peter Steigerwald, Gabe Carrasco *-design & production*

Direct Edition
MARCO RENNA
JOHN STARR

Direct Edition
MARTIN ABEL

Direct Edition
MICHAEL CALERO
ENRICA EDEN ANGIOLINI

Direct Edition
SINA GRACE
JOHN STARR

Retailer Incentive Edition
OSCAR BAZALDUA
PETER STEIGERWALD

FATHOM CREATED BY MICHAEL TURNER

FOR ASPEN: Founder: MICHAEL TURNER Co-Owner: PETER STEIGERWALD Co-Owner/President: FRANK MASTROMAURO
Vice President/Editor in Chief: VINCE HERNANDEZ Vice President/Design and Production: MARK ROSLAN Editorial Assistant: GABE CARRASCO
Office Manager: MEGAN MADRIGAL Editorial Intern: MEXI GREMILLION Production Intern: JUSTICE AspenStore.com: CHRIS RUPP

ALL NEW MICHAEL TURNER'S FATHOM™ Vol. 6 Issue 4 MAY 2017. DIGITAL COPY.

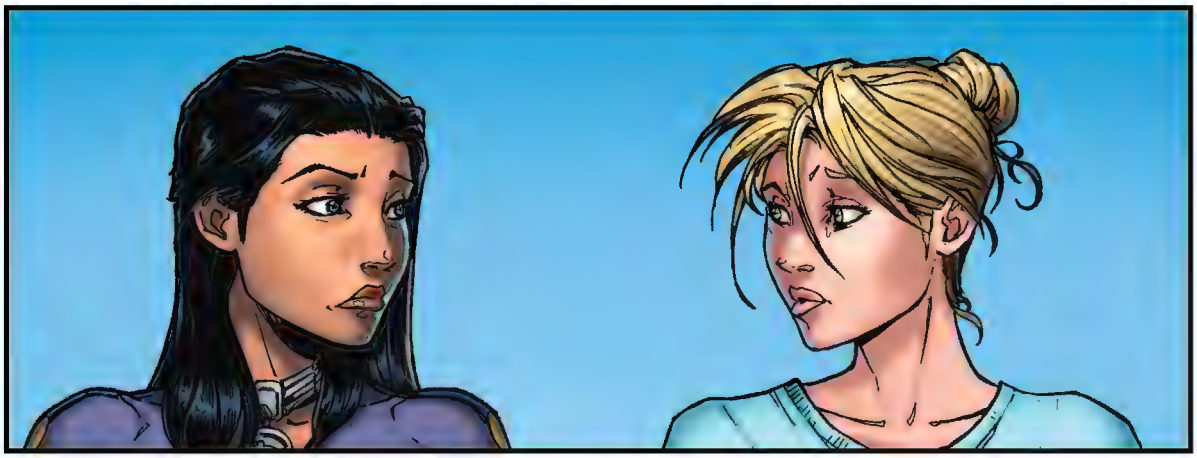
Published by Aspen MLT, Inc., Office of Publication: 5701 W. Slauson Ave. Suite. 120, Culver City, CA 90230. The Aspen MLT, Inc. logo® is a registered trademark of Aspen MLT, Inc. All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ and the All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ logo, are the trademarks of Aspen MLT, Inc. The entire contents of this book, all artwork, characters and their likenesses are © 2017 Aspen MLT, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Any similarities between names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with persons living or dead or institutions is unintended and is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this book may be reprinted, reproduced or transmitted by any means or in any form without the express written consent of Aspen MLT, Inc.

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.ASPENCOMICS.COM
FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT FACEBOOK.COM/ASPENCOMICS
FOLLOW US ON TWITTER AT TWITTER.COM/ASPENCOMICS
FOR MORE ASPEN COMICS GO TO WWW.ASPENSTORE.COM

FOR THE COMICS RETAILER NEAREST YOU CALL: 1888-COMIC-BOOK » INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS REPRESENTATIVE: KELLY MASTROMAURO (PUBLISHING@ASPENCOMICS.COM)

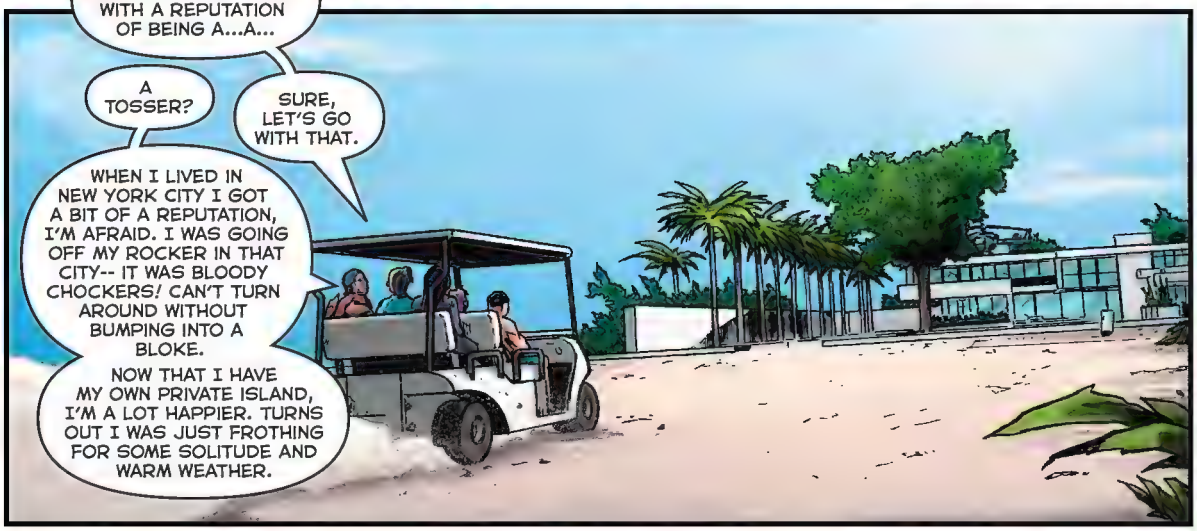
TINIHANGA ISLAND, SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN.
⩾KAFF KAFF⩽ I KNOW WE'RE ON THE LAM, SO WE CAN'T EXACTLY FLASH OUR PASSPORTS AND HOP ON A PLANE...BUT NEXT TIME, CAN WE DO SOMETHING OTHER THAN ROCKET THROUGH THE OCEAN IN ONE OF YOUR AIR BUBBLES?
PRETTY SURE I SWALLOWED A GALLON OF SALT WATER.
AND A KRILL.
I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT. KRILL ARE ONLY TOXIC IF YOU EAT A BUNCH OF THEM.

HUH. FOR A SECRET ISLAND HIDEOUT, THE SECURITY IS PRETTY LAX AROUND HERE.
WAIT, DID YOU JUST SAY 'TOXIC'? CAN WE GET BACK TO THAT?
HEY TYLER, CHECK IT OUT-- A CABANA! MAYBE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO JUST CHILL OUT FOR A WHILE?
DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN, ASPEN. FROM WHAT I'VE READ, THIS MOSS GUY IS PARANOID. SECURITY COULD STORM THE BEACH AT ANY MOMENT: TEAR GAS FLYING, GUNS BLAZING...
MEEP MEEP!
ASPEN! ASPEN MATTHEWS!
HOW YA GOING? BEAUTY OF AN AVRO, BUT IT'S A SCORCHER. CAN I INTEREST YOU LADIES IN A LEMONADE?



SURE, WHY NOT? MY FRIEND TYLER HERE NEEDS SOMETHING TO WASH DOWN HER KRILL.

SORRY, WHERE ARE MY MANNERS? I'M ***RILEY J. MOSS*** THE THIRD, BUT YOU CAN CALL ME R.J. THESE BLOKES ARE LUCAS AND LACHLAN. THEY'RE MY RIGHT ***AND*** LEFT HANDS-- I COULDN'T FIND MY THONGS WITHOUT THEM!
LET'S HEAD UP TO THE HOUSE AND I'LL GIVE YOU THE TOUR.

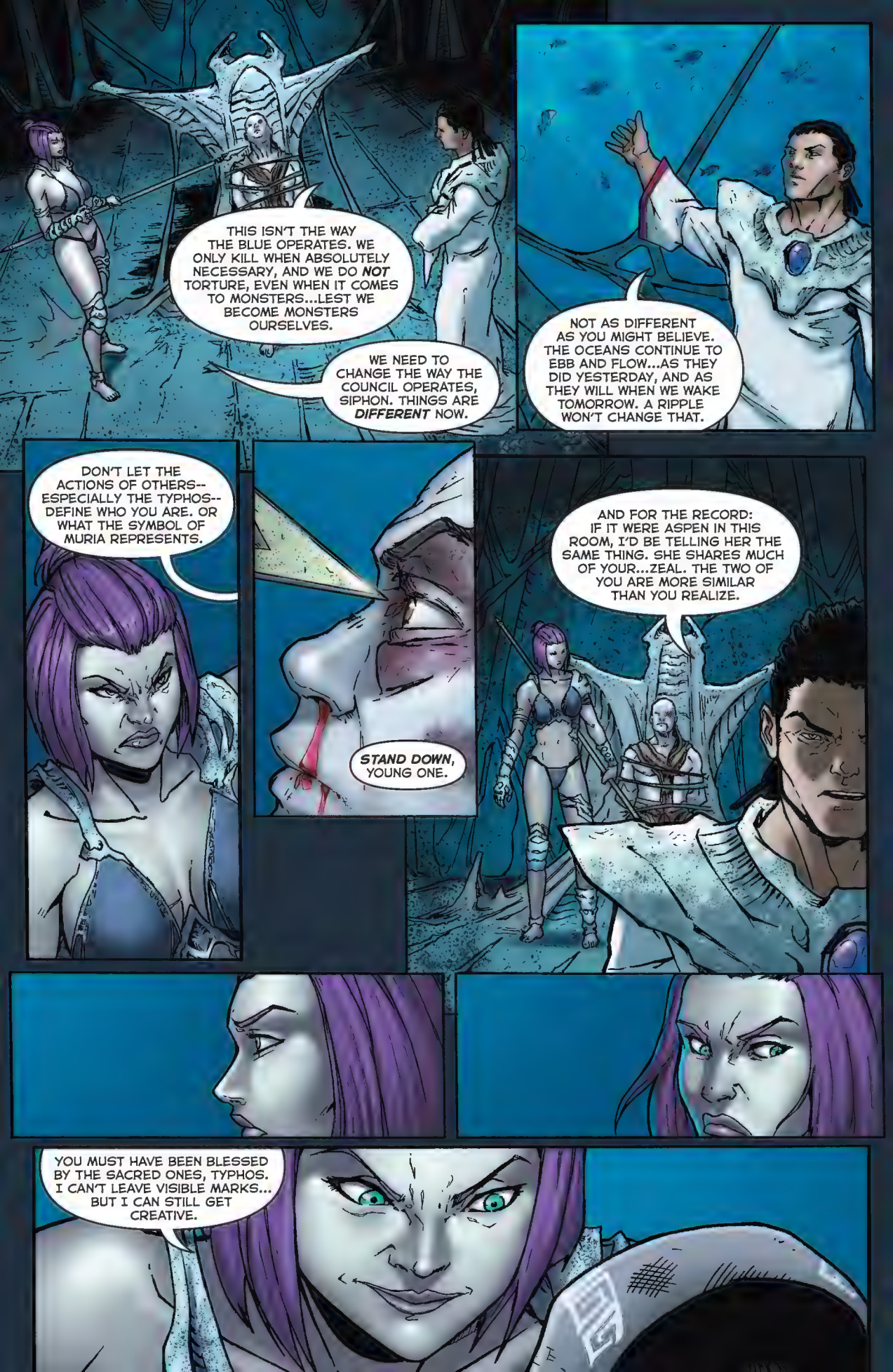

YOU'RE ODDLY JOVIAL FOR SOMEONE WITH A REPUTATION OF BEING A...A...
A TOSSER?
SURE, LET'S GO WITH THAT.
WHEN I LIVED IN NEW YORK CITY I GOT A BIT OF A REPUTATION, I'M AFRAID. I WAS GOING OFF MY ROCKER IN THAT CITY-- IT WAS BLOODY CHOCKERS! CAN'T TURN AROUND WITHOUT BUMPING INTO A BLOKE.
NOW THAT I HAVE MY OWN PRIVATE ISLAND, I'M A LOT HAPPIER. TURNS OUT I WAS JUST FROTHING FOR SOME SOLITUDE AND WARM WEATHER.

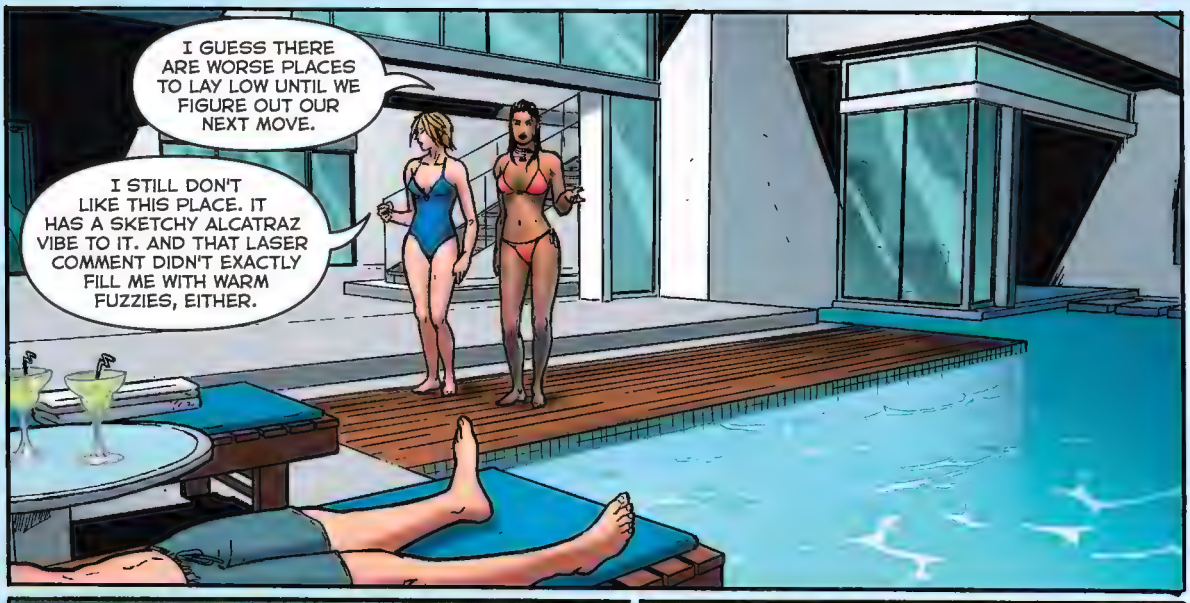
AND HERE'S WHERE YOU'LL BE STAYING. FEEL FREE TO THROW ON YOUR TOGS AND GO FOR A DIP WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT.
DID HE JUST SAY WE'RE GOING TO BE WEARING *TOGAS?*
HE SAID 'TOGS'... I THINK THAT'S AUSTRALIAN FOR 'BATHING SUITS'.
SO IF YOU DON'T MIND ME ASKING...
GO AHEAD, LOVE.
WHAT DO YOU *WANT?*
NOW THAT'S *QUITE* A QUESTION. CAN YOU NARROW IT DOWN A BIT?
YOU OWN THE WORLD'S BIGGEST ELECTRIC CAR COMPANY, YOU MANUFACTURE SHINGLES THAT DOUBLE AS SOLAR PANELS, AND YOU'RE HELPING COUNTRIES REDUCE THEIR CARBON FOOTPRINTS.
I THINK I MISSED THE QUESTION, LOVE.
FOR SOMEONE WHO LOVES THE PLANET, YOU DON'T SEEM TO LIKE THE *PEOPLE* ON IT VERY MUCH. WHY THE PROPAGANDA MACHINE?
WE'RE *GUESTS*, TYLER! MISTER MOSS WAS KIND ENOUGH TO TAKE US IN, AND–
NO, NO, IT'S ALL RIGHT. I THINK I KNOW WHERE SHE'S GOING WITH THIS. I OWN A *FEW* NEWSPAPERS ACROSS CANADA, THE U.S. AND AUSTRALIA.
EIGHTY-FOUR.
AND SOMETIMES WE RUN AN EDITORIAL ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES... LIKE *OVERPOPULATION.*

HOW THERE ARE TOO MANY PEOPLE HOGGING RESOURCES, AND THAT WE SHOULD CUT OFF AID TO COUNTRIES THAT DON'T COMPLY TO STRICT REGULATIONS.
LIKE I SAID, THEY'RE *EDITORIALS*, LOVE-- *NOT* THE NEWS. READERS ARE FREE TO DISAGREE.
WELL IF YOU CONTROL *ALL* THE MEDIA, HOW ARE PEOPLE SUPPOSED TO DISAGREE WITH YOU?
WON'T THEIR VOICES GET DROWNED OUT?
THIS IS A CRACKER OF A DEBATE, BUT I HAVE BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO. WHY DON'T YOU GET COMFORTABLE AND WE'LL CONTINUE THIS OVER SUPPER?
OH, ONE MORE THING: OUR LASER DEFENSE SHIELDS ARE ACTIVE. SWIM MORE THAN A HUNDRED FEET FROM THE SHORE, AND, WELL...LET'S JUST SAY THAT ALL THE SUNSCREEN IN THE WORLD ISN'T GONNA SAVE YOU.
TAKE 'ER EASY!
OKAY, *THAT* WAS WEIRD.
I DON'T THINK R.J. IS THE WEIRD ONE, TY. WHAT WAS WITH THE *INTERROGATION?*
I WAS JUST ASKING A COUPLE QUESTIONS!
IN CASE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN, WE DON'T HAVE TONS OF OPTIONS. EVERYONE IN THE WORLD KNOWS WHO I AM, I CAN'T GO HOME TO SAN DIEGO, AND I CAN'T STAY WITH YOU AND MATILDA IN MURIA. AT THE MOMENT, HE'S ALL WE'VE GOT.
YEAH, BUT--
THERE'S NO 'BUT', TYLER! THE BLUE TRUST HIM AS AN ALLY, AND SO SHOULD WE. STOP BEING A REPORTER FOR FIVE MINUTES AND *RELAX.*
IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS GRILLING HIM WITH TOUGH QUESTIONS.
IF HE'S SO TRUSTWORTHY, HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE A FEW SHOTS TO THE CHIN.

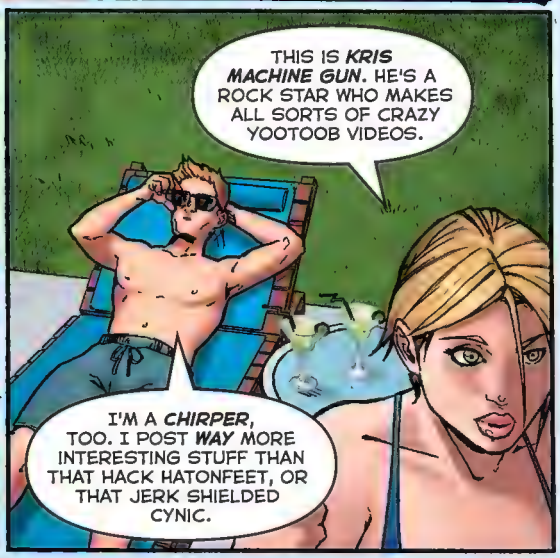
MURIA, CAPITAL CITY OF THE BLUE.
THWOK!
YOU'RE REMARKABLY DURABLE. ALMOST TO A FAULT.
YOU WILL LEARN NOTHING FROM ME... BLUE FILTH.
I ADMIRE THE TYPHOS-- VICIOUS, COLD-BLOODED KILLERS. YOU THIN OUT THE RANKS 'TIL ONLY THE STRONGEST REMAIN...
BUT AS TOUGH AS YOU ARE-- OR SHOULD I SAY, AS TOUGH AS YOU THINK YOU ARE-- EVERYONE BREAKS.
YOU'LL TALK.
DEATH FIRST.
THAT CAN BE ARRANGED.
VIRYDIS, YOU DO REALIZE VERY LITTLE INFORMATION CAN BE GLEANED FROM A CORPSE. AT LEAST FROM MY EXPERIENCE.
I DIDN'T SEE YOU THERE, SIPHON.
APPARENTLY. CARE TO EXPLAIN WHAT YOU'RE DOING?
MY JOB.
BE THAT AS IT MAY, THIS PARTICULAR... TECHNIQUE HAS YIELDED VERY POOR RESULTS WHEN EMPLOYED BY THE HUMANS.
PRISONERS TEND TO SAY WHATEVER YOU'D LIKE TO HEAR IF IT GIVES THEM A REPRIEVE FROM BEING POKED WITH SHARP OBJECTS.

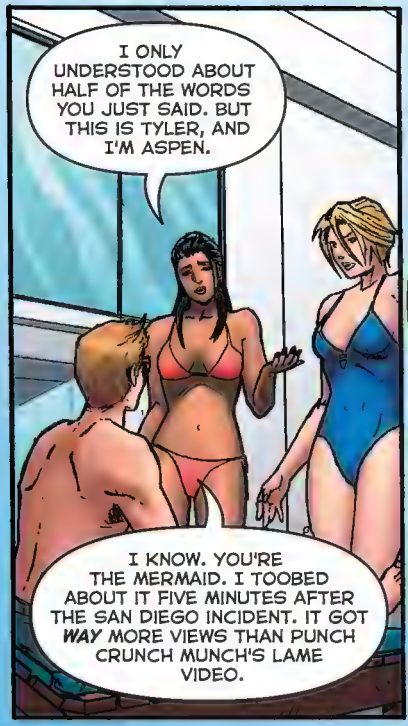
WELL I HAVEN'T STARTED THE POKING YET, SO WE'LL JUST HAVE TO TEST THAT THEORY.
VIRYDIS!
THIS USED TO BE PART OF OUR CULTURE! PART OF BEING AT WAR!
WE'RE NOT AT WAR.
AREN'T WE? AT THE VERY LEAST WE'RE ON THE BRINK OF IT, ALL THANKS TO ASPEN.
WE ARE NOT HAVING THIS DISCUSSION AGAIN.
WE NEVER HAD IT TO BEGIN WITH! WHEN IT COMES TO HER, YOU'RE BLIND.
CAREFUL, YOUNG ONE. I ENCOURAGE ALL ON THE COUNCIL TO SPEAK THEIR MINDS, BUT CHOOSE YOUR NEXT WORDS VERY CAUTIOUSLY.
SHE RELEASED THE TYPHOS, EXPOSED US TO THE HUMANS, AND FOR ALL WE KNOW SHE'S CLANDESTINELY WORKING AGAINST US. SHE'S BEEN UP ON THE SURFACE, GALLIVANTING WITH HUMANS FOR YEARS-- MAYBE PLOTTING.
THOSE ARE SERIOUS ACCUSATIONS.
EVEN YOU HAVE TO ADMIT, IT'S NOT IMPLAUSIBLE. I NEED LEEWAY TO INVESTIGATE, AND YES, TO INTERROGATE A MONSTER IF NECESSARY.


THIS ISN'T THE WAY THE BLUE OPERATES. WE ONLY KILL WHEN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY, AND WE DO *NOT* TORTURE, EVEN WHEN IT COMES TO MONSTERS...LEST WE BECOME MONSTERS OURSELVES.
WE NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY THE COUNCIL OPERATES, SIPHON. THINGS ARE *DIFFERENT* NOW.
NOT AS DIFFERENT AS YOU MIGHT BELIEVE. THE OCEANS CONTINUE TO EBB AND FLOW...AS THEY DID YESTERDAY, AND AS THEY WILL WHEN WE WAKE TOMORROW. A RIPPLE WON'T CHANGE THAT.
DON'T LET THE ACTIONS OF OTHERS--ESPECIALLY THE TYPHOS--DEFINE WHO YOU ARE. OR WHAT THE SYMBOL OF MURIA REPRESENTS.
STAND DOWN, YOUNG ONE.
AND FOR THE RECORD: IF IT WERE ASPEN IN THIS ROOM, I'D BE TELLING HER THE SAME THING. SHE SHARES MUCH OF YOUR...ZEAL. THE TWO OF YOU ARE MORE SIMILAR THAN YOU REALIZE.
YOU MUST HAVE BEEN BLESSED BY THE SACRED ONES, TYPHOS. I CAN'T LEAVE VISIBLE MARKS... BUT I CAN STILL GET CREATIVE.


I GUESS THERE ARE WORSE PLACES TO LAY LOW UNTIL WE FIGURE OUT OUR NEXT MOVE.
I STILL DON'T LIKE THIS PLACE. IT HAS A SKETCHY ALCATRAZ VIBE TO IT. AND THAT LASER COMMENT DIDN'T EXACTLY FILL ME WITH WARM FUZZIES, EITHER.

WE'RE NOT PRISONERS HERE.
WHO ARE YOU?


THIS IS ***KRIS MACHINE GUN***. HE'S A ROCK STAR WHO MAKES ALL SORTS OF CRAZY YOOTOOB VIDEOS.
I'M A ***CHIRPER***, TOO. I POST ***WAY*** MORE INTERESTING STUFF THAN THAT HACK HATONFEET, OR THAT JERK SHIELDED CYNIC.


I ONLY UNDERSTOOD ABOUT HALF OF THE WORDS YOU JUST SAID. BUT THIS IS TYLER, AND I'M ASPEN.
I KNOW. YOU'RE THE MERMAID. I TOOBED ABOUT IT FIVE MINUTES AFTER THE SAN DIEGO INCIDENT. IT GOT ***WAY*** MORE VIEWS THAN PUNCH CRUNCH MUNCH'S LAME VIDEO.

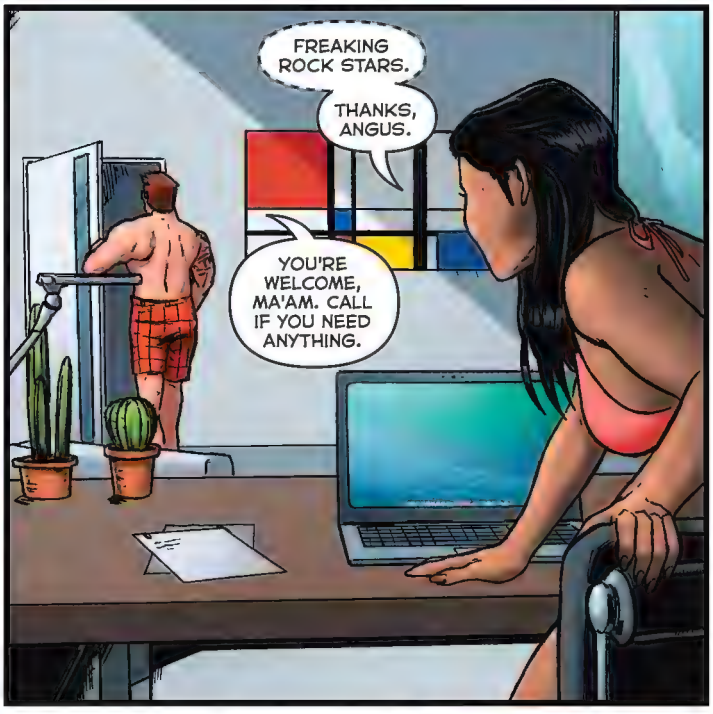
CONGRATULATIONS, I GUESS...?
BUT WHAT ARE ***YOU*** DOING HERE?
I WAS ON TOUR WITH MY BAND IN SOUTH KOREA, BUT WE NEEDED A BREAK. IF I DIDN'T GET SOME TIME TO UNWIND I WAS GONNA GUZZLE A GALLON OF BLEACH. I VISIT ALL THE TIME-- MOSS IS THE BEST.

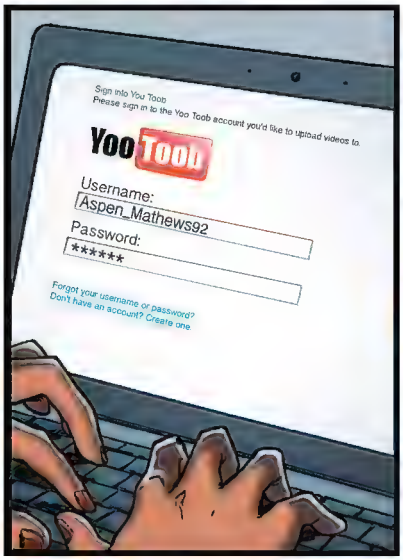
HMM. INTERESTING STORY. I'M GOING TO LOOK YOU UP TO SEE IF IT CHECKS OUT...
THAT WON'T WORK HERE.

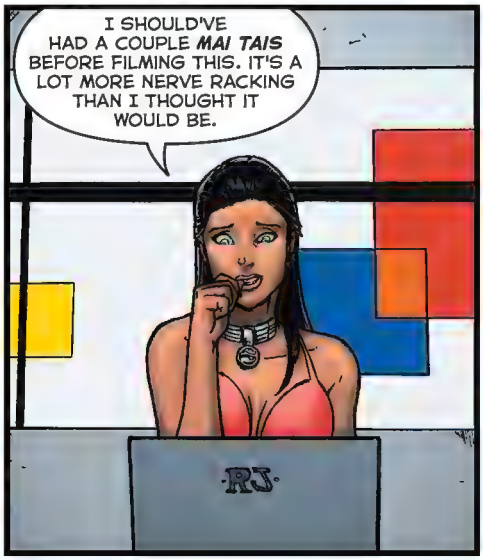
WHY THE HELL NOT?
No Service
Searching..
LOW-LEVEL ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE THAT SURROUNDS THE ISLAND. KEEPS IT INVISIBLE TO RADAR, AND BLOCKS CELL RECEPTION. EVEN SATELLITE PHONES DON'T WORK.
ANGUS, MY MAN! JUST IN TIME...HOW'S PAUL DOING?
PAUL IS FINE, SIR. JUST TAKING A STROLL.
HEY...ANGUS, IS IT? I CAN'T GET ANY RECEPTION. IS THERE ANY WAY I CAN MAKE SOME CALLS FROM ONE OF MISTER MOSS' LINES?
OF COURSE NOT, MA'AM. MISTER MOSS CARES DEEPLY ABOUT THE SECURITY OF HIS GUESTS, AND CALLS CAN BE TRACED.
OKAY...BUT HE MUST BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD SOMEHOW, RIGHT?
YOU CAN SEND EMAILS, BUT THEY NEED TO BE SCREENED IN ADVANCE.
COULD I POST A VIDEO? YOU CAN CHECK IT BEFORE I UPLOAD, OF COURSE.
THERE'S AN OFFICE INSIDE. FOLLOW ME.

HERE YOU GO. CALL ME WHEN YOU'RE READY TO HAVE IT REVIEWED.
THANKS.

AND ANGUS... WHAT'S WITH THE LLAMA?
THAT'S PAUL. MISTER MACHINE GUN WON'T TRAVEL WITHOUT HIM.


FREAKING ROCK STARS.
THANKS, ANGUS.
YOU'RE WELCOME, MA'AM. CALL IF YOU NEED ANYTHING.

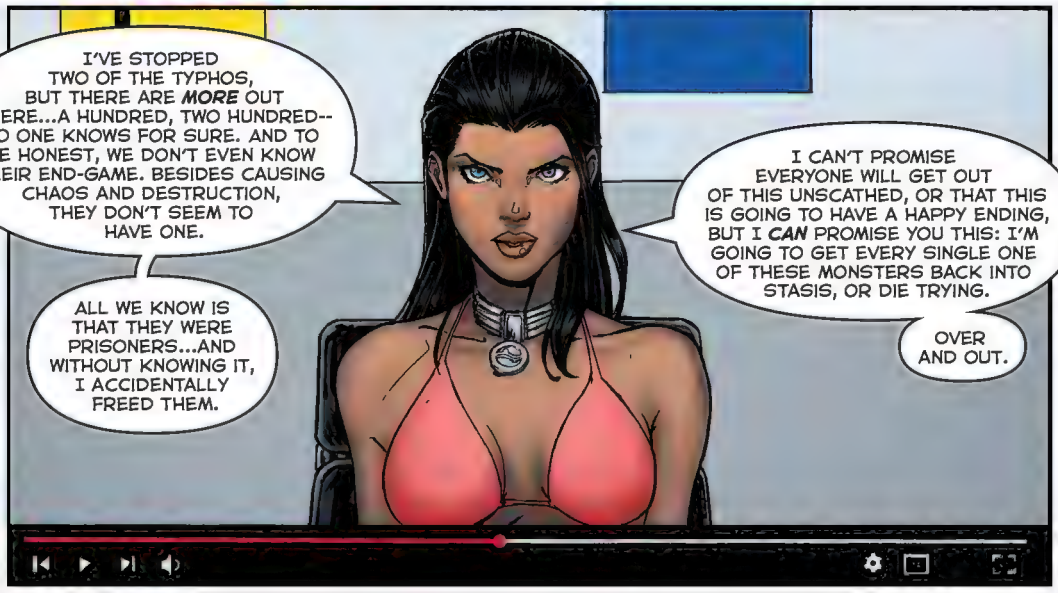

Sign into You Toob
Please sign in to the You Toob account you'd like to upload videos to.
YooToob
Username:
Aspen_Mathews92
Password:
******
Forgot your username or password?
Don't have an account? Create one.


I SHOULD'VE HAD A COUPLE MAI TAIS BEFORE FILMING THIS. IT'S A LOT MORE NERVE RACKING THAN I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE.
RJ

HERE WE GO...

HEY, GUYS. IT'S...WELL, NO POINT IN HIDING BEHIND A SECRET IDENTITY SINCE MY NAME IS EVERYWHERE NOW. I'M ASPEN MATTHEWS: FORMER MARINE BIOLOGIST, CURRENT FUGITIVE. AND TOTALLY NOT A MERMAID, DESPITE WHAT YOU MIGHT'VE READ.
I'M...HOW DO I EXPLAIN THIS? I'M DIFFERENT. MY PEOPLE ARE DIFFERENT. WE HAVE ABILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY THAT IS EXTREMELY ADVANCED. IT COULD POSE A THREAT TO HUMANS, AND THAT'S A SCARY PROPOSITION-- I GET THAT.
BUT THAT'S NOT MY INTENTION. IT'S NOT OUR INTENTION. I'M PART OF THE BLUE: AN UNDERSEA RACE THAT WANTS NOTHING MORE THAN TO CO-EXIST WITH THE HUMANS IN PEACE. THE LAST THING WE WANT IS BLOODSHED.
THE CREATURE THAT RAMPAGED THROUGH SAN DIEGO IS PART OF A SECT CALLED THE TYPHOS-- THEY DON'T REPRESENT US. YES, WE LOOK SIMILAR, BUT THEY'RE OUR ENEMIES, AND WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN TO FIGHT THEM.
YOU DON'T KNOW ME, AND YOU HAVE NO REASON TO TRUST ME. TRUST IS COMPLICATED AT THE BEST OF TIMES, AND IT HAS TO BE EARNED. I GUESS THAT'S WHY I'M MAKING THIS VIDEO.
I WANT YOU TO LOOK ME IN THE EYES WHEN I SAY THIS: I'M GOING TO EARN YOUR TRUST.

YooToob



I am here to protect you

Aspen Matthews

Subscribe 534,987

1,073 views

Add to Share More

Ms. Laura Northern
I don't know what's going on down there in America with your open borders and daily mermaid attacks, but leave Canada out of this! We need to triple our military budget ASAP. #TrueNorthStrong

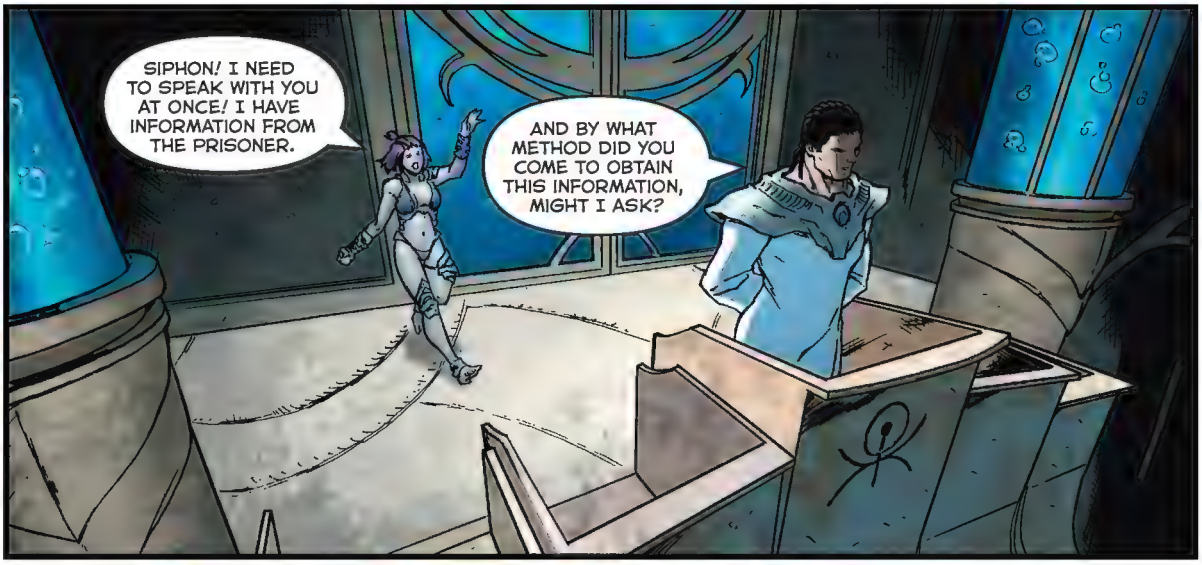
Shielded Cynic
I'm sorry, as a fellow Canadian I couldn't disagree more.
But at the same time, I'm cynical about this Aspen Matthews and her motivations. So, who knows? I'm sorry.

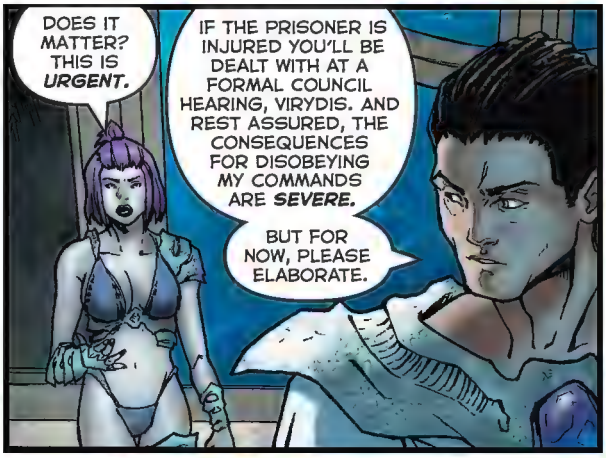
HatOnFeet
Hey Bob and Doug: keep your political opinions north of the border where they belong, along with Bieber and Nickelback. We got this. If we need advice about zambonis we'll give you a call.

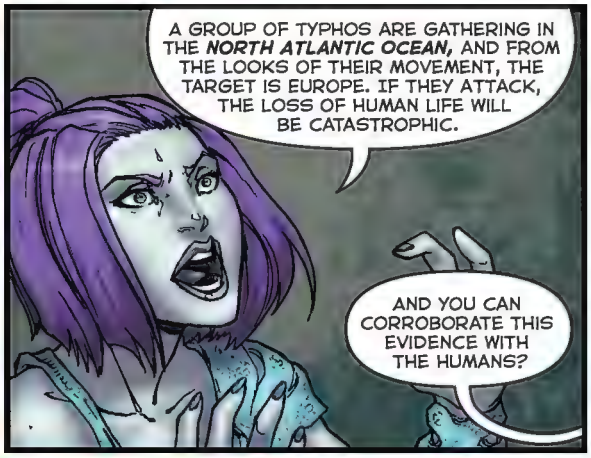
Middle-Aged Mercs
RIGHT NOW there are troops lined up all along the Pacific coastlines. They're not there for aesthetic reasons- they're ready for combat. America is about to wage the biggest war since WWII and the blame should rest COMPLETELY on this administration. If MY candidate had won, this wouldn't be happening!

Sean Joseph Dodson
OH PLEASE. Thank god the President DID deploy these troops. What are you planning on doing, letting these sea monsters overrun the coastlines with no resistance? What's next on the agenda: giving them free health care?

Anonymous User
You guys DO realize that while you bicker and argue and try to score political points, real people could be dying soon ... right?


SIPHON! I NEED TO SPEAK WITH YOU AT ONCE! I HAVE INFORMATION FROM THE PRISONER.
AND BY WHAT METHOD DID YOU COME TO OBTAIN THIS INFORMATION, MIGHT I ASK?


DOES IT MATTER? THIS IS *URGENT.*
IF THE PRISONER IS INJURED YOU'LL BE DEALT WITH AT A FORMAL COUNCIL HEARING, VIRYDIS. AND REST ASSURED, THE CONSEQUENCES FOR DISOBEYING MY COMMANDS ARE *SEVERE.*
BUT FOR NOW, PLEASE ELABORATE.

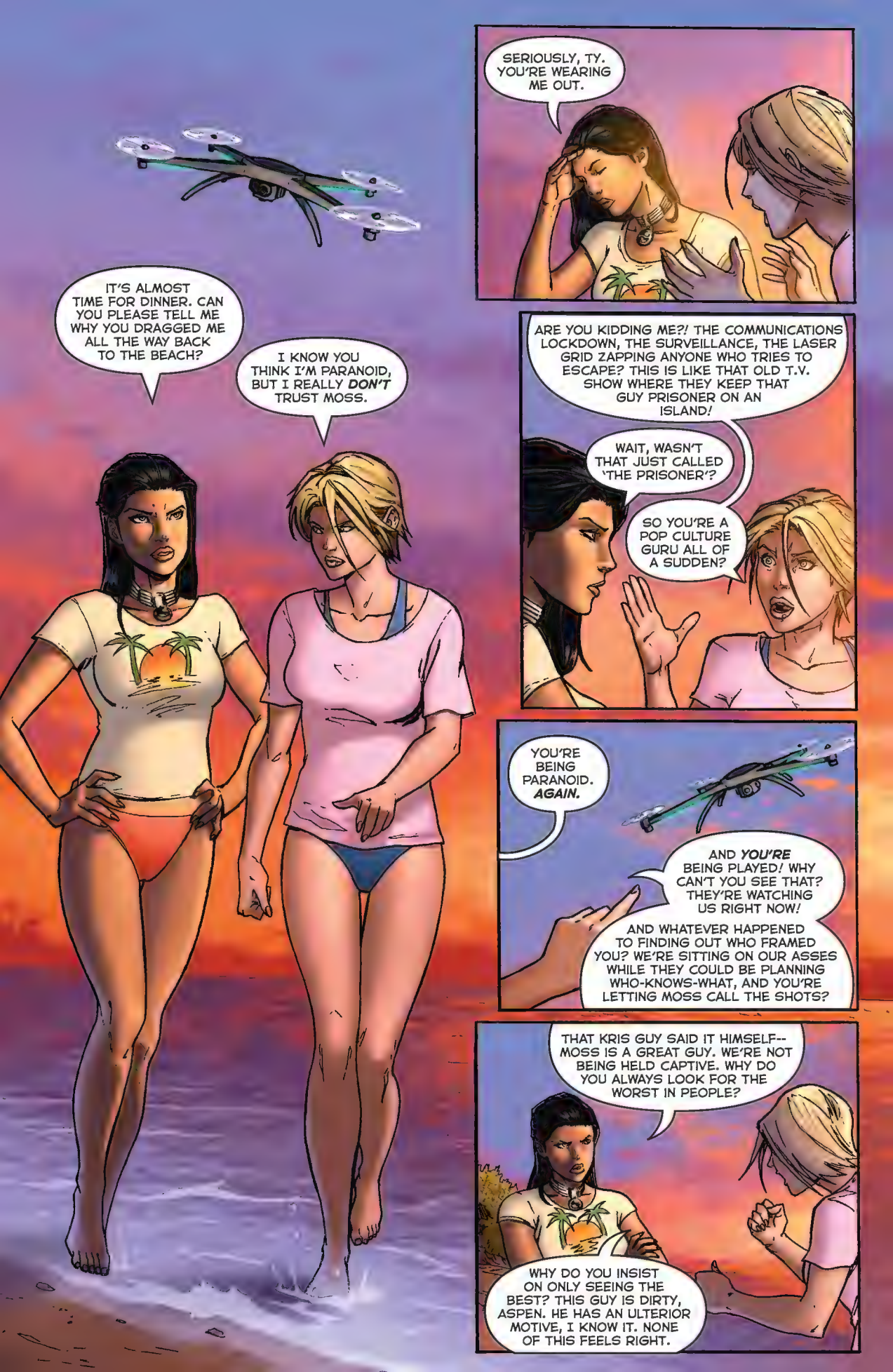

A GROUP OF TYPHOS ARE GATHERING IN THE *NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN,* AND FROM THE LOOKS OF THEIR MOVEMENT, THE TARGET IS EUROPE. IF THEY ATTACK, THE LOSS OF HUMAN LIFE WILL BE CATASTROPHIC.
AND YOU CAN CORROBORATE THIS EVIDENCE WITH THE HUMANS?

I JUST CONTACTED *CANNON HAWKE* TO VERIFY-- HE'S WITH THE AMERICANS, AND THEIR SATELLITE IMAGING CONFIRMS MY INTELLIGENCE. IT'S MORE THAN A HUNDRED OF THEM...EVERY PRISONER, ALL GATHERED IN ONE AREA.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE, IT SEEMS. WE WILL DEPLOY A BRIGADE IMMEDIATELY.

ALL DUE RESPECT, SIPHON, I SUGGEST SENDING THE ENTIRE *LEGION.* IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO ENSURE WE RE-CAPTURE THEM ALL. I DON'T KNOW WHEN WE WILL GET ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY LIKE THIS.

YOU'RE CORRECT. WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LET EVEN *ONE* MORE TYPHOS REACH THE HUMANS. THE POLITICAL FALLOUT WOULD BE DISASTROUS.

WELL DONE, YOUNG ONE.


IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR DINNER. CAN YOU PLEASE TELL ME WHY YOU DRAGGED ME ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE BEACH?
I KNOW YOU THINK I'M PARANOID, BUT I REALLY DON'T TRUST MOSS.
SERIOUSLY, TY. YOU'RE WEARING ME OUT.
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?! THE COMMUNICATIONS LOCKDOWN, THE SURVEILLANCE, THE LASER GRID ZAPPING ANYONE WHO TRIES TO ESCAPE? THIS IS LIKE THAT OLD T.V. SHOW WHERE THEY KEEP THAT GUY PRISONER ON AN ISLAND!
WAIT, WASN'T THAT JUST CALLED 'THE PRISONER'?
SO YOU'RE A POP CULTURE GURU ALL OF A SUDDEN?
YOU'RE BEING PARANOID. AGAIN.
AND YOU'RE BEING PLAYED! WHY CAN'T YOU SEE THAT? THEY'RE WATCHING US RIGHT NOW!
AND WHATEVER HAPPENED TO FINDING OUT WHO FRAMED YOU? WE'RE SITTING ON OUR ASSES WHILE THEY COULD BE PLANNING WHO-KNOWS-WHAT, AND YOU'RE LETTING MOSS CALL THE SHOTS?
THAT KRIS GUY SAID IT HIMSELF-- MOSS IS A GREAT GUY. WE'RE NOT BEING HELD CAPTIVE. WHY DO YOU ALWAYS LOOK FOR THE WORST IN PEOPLE?
WHY DO YOU INSIST ON ONLY SEEING THE BEST? THIS GUY IS DIRTY, ASPEN. HE HAS AN ULTERIOR MOTIVE, I KNOW IT. NONE OF THIS FEELS RIGHT.

MOSS HAS BEEN AN ALLY OF THE BLUE FOR ***YEARS***-- SIPHON TOLD ME SO HIMSELF. HE WOULDN'T HAVE SENT US HERE UNLESS HE KNEW IT WAS SAFE.
AS SOON AS THE TYPHOS ARE CONTAINED WE CAN GET BACK TO OUR NORMAL LIVES, BUT UNTIL THEN WE STAY PUT.
YEAH, BUT, THERE'S--
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE TO SAY, TYLER! THAT'S ***FINAL!***
OH, IT'S 'FINAL' IS IT? WELL I'M SORRY, BUT I'M NOT ONE OF YOUR BLUE SOLDIERS. I DON'T TAKE ORDERS, AND YOU CAN'T JUST PUSH ME OUT OF YOUR LIFE WHEN IT'S CONVENIENT, LIKE YOU DO TO CHANCE. I'M HERE FOR YOU WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT.
IF YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD FRIEND THEN YOU'LL KNOW WHEN TO SHUT YOUR MOUTH. THE BLUE ARE MY PEOPLE, AND THEY TRUST MOSS. THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN SAY THAT WILL CONVINCE ME OTHERWISE.
IF THE BLUE ARE YOUR PEOPLE, THEN WHAT DOES THAT MAKE ME?
YOU'RE A HUMAN. STICK TO HUMAN AFFAIRS.
AND STAY OUT OF OURS.

TOK TOK TOK
FREDERICO, IS THAT YOU, LOVE? CAN YOU PLEASE FETCH OUR GUESTS AFTER YOU'VE SET THE TABLE. IT'S GETTING LATE AND I WANT TO START SUPPER.
OH, AND PREPARE AN EXTRA STEAK FOR THEIR DOG, MATILDA.
AHHH!
YOUR ISLAND DEFENSES ARE PATHETIC. NEARLY AS *PATHETIC* AS THE HUMANS YOU SERVE.
W-WHAT DO YOU WANT?
TO SLICE YOU OPEN AND SEE HOW *GUTLESS* YOU REALLY ARE.

BUT I'M HERE TO RELAY A MESSAGE.
WELL I'VE GOT A MESSAGE FOR YOUR ESTEEMED LEADER. YOU REMIND THAT BLOODY MANIAC THAT THERE ARE PROTOCOLS IN PLACE FOR A REASON. SOMEONE COULD'VE SEEN YOU.
I'M HERE TO TELL YOU THE DEAL HAS BEEN ALTERED.
'ALTERED'? WELL THAT'S JUST BRILLIANT. I'M DOING MY PART, HERE. I'VE GOT ASPEN EATING OUT OF THE PALM OF MY HAND...HELL, SHE'S EVEN GOT THAT REPORTER OF HERS FALLING IN LINE. THEY WON'T BE GOING ANYWHERE.
THE ATTACK WILL BE OVER BEFORE ANYONE CAN STOP IT, AND WE'LL ALL HAVE WHAT WE WANT.
AND WHERE WILL THE ATTACK TAKE PLACE?
SAN DIEGO, OF COURSE! THE TYPHOS ARE IN THE PACIFIC RIGHT NOW, READY TO STRIKE!
OF COURSE.
ONCE THE CHAOS SETTLES WE'LL FRAME ASPEN FOR SEDITION, AND EVERYONE GETS WHAT THEY WANT: THE HUMANS WILL RETALIATE AGAINST THE BLUE CAPITAL OF MURIA FOR CO-ORDINATING THE ATTACK...
...BECAUSE TO THE HUMANS, TYPHOS AND BLUE ARE INTERCHANGEABLE.
PRECISELY!
AND WHILE THE BLUE AND HUMANS DESTROY EACH OTHER, YOU'LL HAVE YOUR DREAM COME TRUE: A MASSIVE POPULATION REDUCTION.
YOU...YOU SHOULD ALREADY KNOW THIS. WHO ARE YOU?

A SCAPEGOAT, APPARENTLY.
YOU... YOU'RE NOT...
I'M NOT AN *IDIOT,* MOSS. I KNEW YOU WERE DIRTY THE SECOND WE MET.
RIGHT NOW I CAN FEEL THE TIDES SHIFTING NEAR OAHU, THE ENERGY OF A WAVE CRESTING IN SYDNEY. YOU THINK I CAN'T DETECT A RAPID HEARTBEAT, OR BLOOD RACING THROUGH ARTERIES WHILE YOU AND YOUR STAFF LIE TO ME?
B-BUT ON THE BEACH-- ?
THAT PERFORMANCE WAS FOR YOUR BENEFIT. SO YOU WOULDN'T SUSPECT I WAS ONTO YOUR BULL$#!*.
BEING DUMB ENOUGH TO SPILL YOUR ENTIRE PLAN WAS JUST A LUCKY BREAK. I HAD A FEELING YOU'D DOUSE YOUR KHAKIS AT THE SIGHT OF A BLADE.
ON THE WAY BACK TO MURIA, I THINK WE NEED TO HAVE A LITTLE CHAT ABOUT WHO'S BEHIND THIS WHOLE THING.
OH, NO... PLEASE... DON'T...
IN FACT, LET'S GO RIGHT NOW. I'LL EVEN HELP YOU PACK.
KRASH!

P-P-PLEASE DON'T KILL ME!
I'M NOT GOING TO KILL YOU. THAT WOULD TAKE THE FUN OUT OF WATCHING THE ELITE BLUE COUNCIL PUT YOU ON TRIAL. THE PENALTY FOR TREASON WILL BE WORSE THAN ANYTHING I COULD DO TO YOU--
AAAAARRRGHHHH!
YOUR ANGER, YOUR AGGRESSION... I LIKE IT. YOU'LL FIT IN WELL WITH THE TYPHOS.
CANNON...?!
AFTER THE WAR, I WAS HOPING TO BRING YOU AROUND TO MY WAY OF THINKING...BUT NOW, IT LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO ACCELERATE THE TIMETABLE.
TO BE CONTINUED..

BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR + ZEN
aspen comics
Vol. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM™
#5
OF 8
COVER A
RENNA
aspencomics.com

aspen comics
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#5
OF 8
COVER B
adam archer
aspencomics.com

PREVIOUSLY IN:

Aspen and Tyler arrived on the private island getaway of billionaire philanthropist RJ Moss, but the pair quickly argued over his trustworthiness. However, Aspen secretly took matters into her own hands, cloaking herself as a Typhos warrior to uncover his illicit cooperation with them. Yet, not before she was ambushed by the surprise arrival of his newest ally, Cannon Hawke...

ASPEN COMICS PRESENT

All New Fathom

PART 5 of 8

Blake Northcott
writer

Marco Renna
pencils

Mark Roslan
digital inks

John Starr
colors

Zen
letters

Vince Hernandez, Gabe Carrasco *-editors*

Mark Roslan, Peter Steigerwald, Gabe Carrasco *-design & production-*

Direct Edition
MARCO RENNA
JOHN STARR

Direct Edition
ADAM ARCHER

Retailer Incentive Edition
MARCO RENNA
JUSTICE

FATHOM CREATED BY MICHAEL TURNER

FOR ASPEN: Founder: MICHAEL TURNER Co-Owner: PETER STEIGERWALD Co-Owner/President: FRANK MASTROMAURO
Vice President/Editor in Chief: VINCE HERNANDEZ Vice President/Design and Production: MARK ROSLAN Editor: GABE CARRASCO
Office Manager: MEGAN MADRIGAL Editorial Intern: MEXI GREMILLION Production Intern: JUSTICE AspenStore.com: CHRIS RUPP

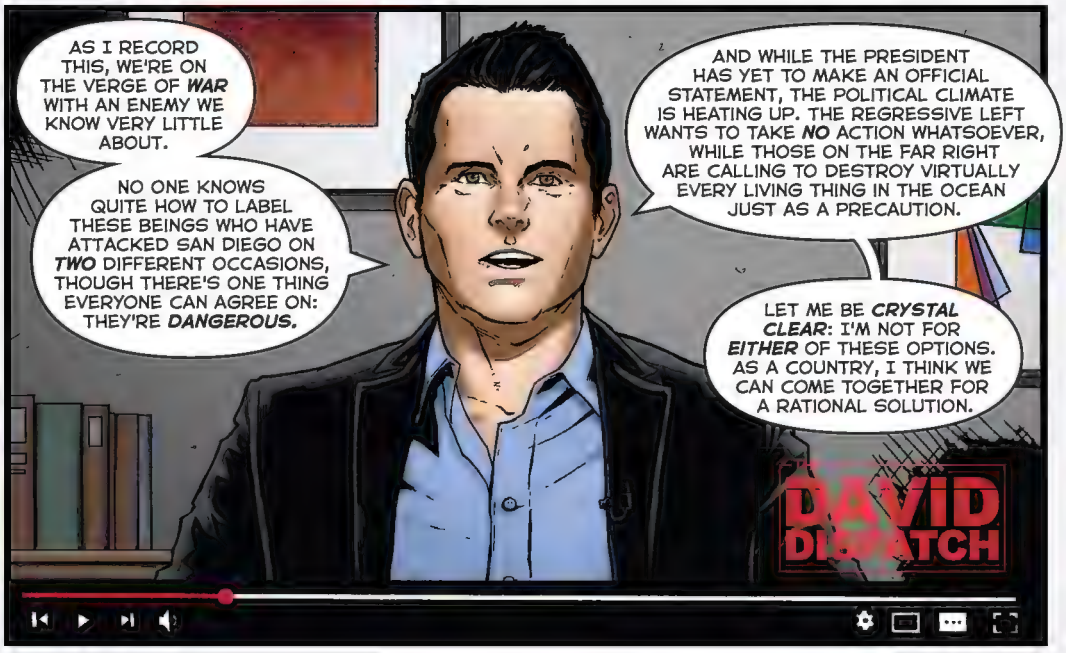
ALL NEW MICHAEL TURNER'S FATHOM™ Vol. 6 Issue 5 JUNE 2017. DIGITAL COPY.

Published by Aspen MLT, Inc., Office of Publication: 5701 W. Slauson Ave. Suite. 120, Culver City, CA 90230. The Aspen MLT, Inc. logo® is a registered trademark of Aspen MLT, Inc. All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ and the All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ logo, are the trademarks of Aspen MLT, Inc. The entire contents of this book, all artwork, characters and their likenesses are © 2017 Aspen MLT, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Any similarities between names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with persons living or dead or institutions is unintended and is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this book may be reprinted, reproduced or transmitted by any means or in any form without the express written consent of Aspen MLT, Inc.

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.ASPENCOMICS.COM FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT FACEBOOK.COM/ASPENCOMICS FOLLOW US ON TWITTER AT TWITTER.COM/ASPENCOMICS FOR MORE ASPEN COMICS GO TO WWW.ASPENSTORE.COM

FOR THE COMICS RETAILER NEAREST YOU CALL: 1888-COMIC-BOOK » INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS REPRESENTATIVE: KELLY MASTROMAURO (PUBLISHING@ASPENCOMICS.COM)

YooToob



When it Comes to War, is a Strong Offense the Best Defense?

The David Dispatch Show

Subscribe 467,810

1,186,364 views

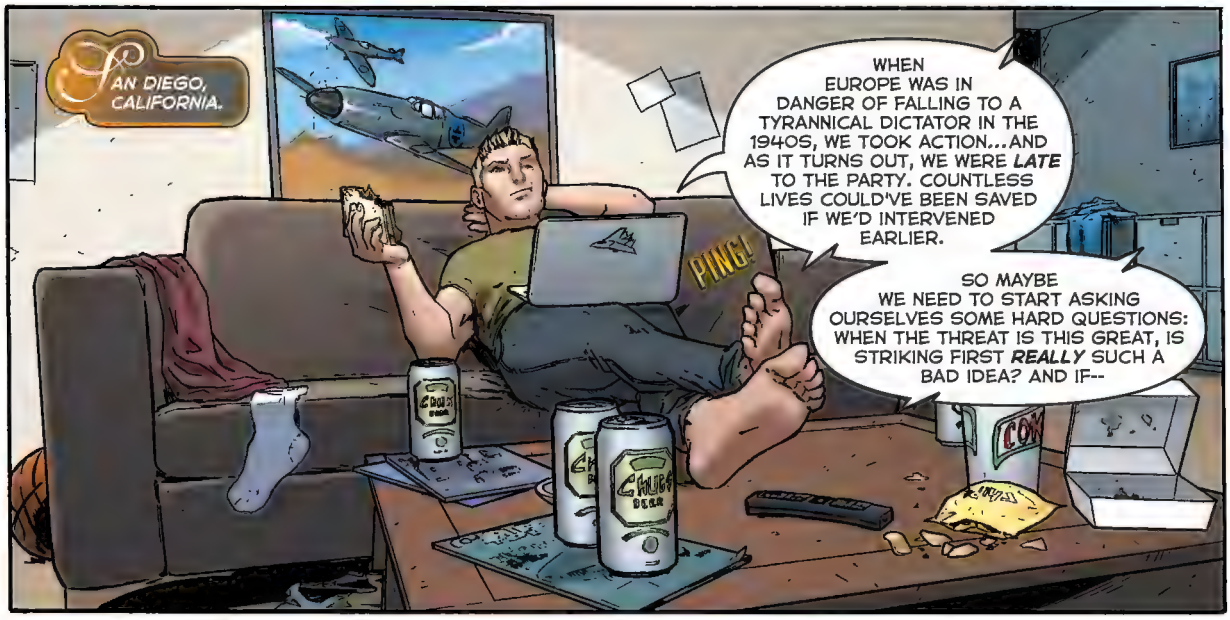
Add to Share More

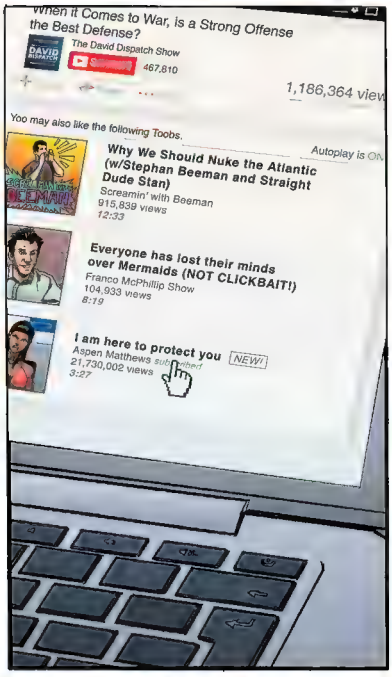
Yoo may also like the following Toobs: Autoplay is ON

Why We Should Nuke the Atlantic (w/Stephan Beeman and Straight Dude Stan)
Screamin' with Beeman
915,839 views
12:33

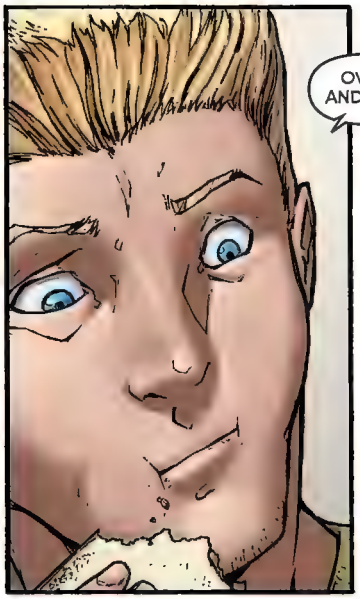
Everyone has lost their minds over Mermaids (NOT CLICKBAIT!)
Franco McPhillip Show
104,933 views
8:19

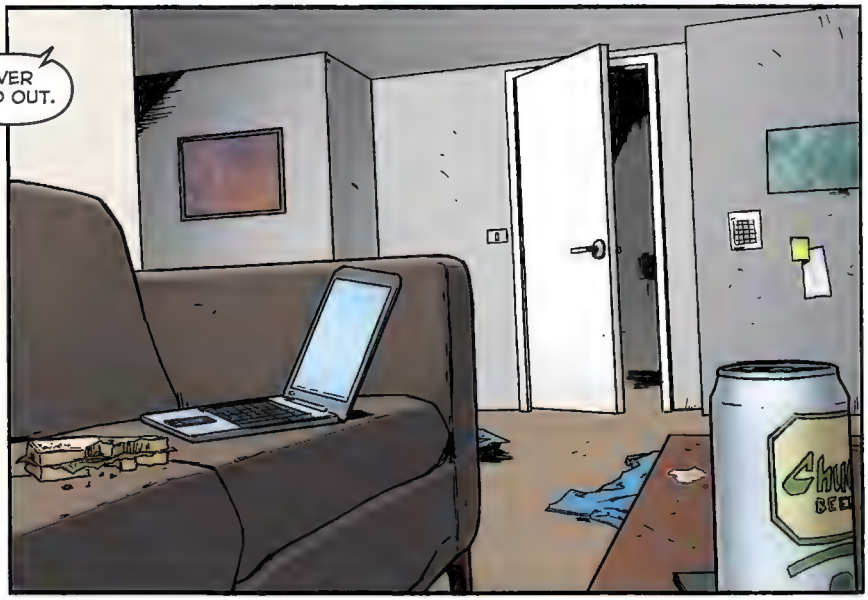
I am here to protect you NEW!
Aspen Matthews *subscribed*
21,730,002 views
3:27


SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.
WHEN EUROPE WAS IN DANGER OF FALLING TO A TYRANNICAL DICTATOR IN THE 1940S, WE TOOK ACTION...AND AS IT TURNS OUT, WE WERE ***LATE*** TO THE PARTY. COUNTLESS LIVES COULD'VE BEEN SAVED IF WE'D INTERVENED EARLIER.
PING!
SO MAYBE WE NEED TO START ASKING OURSELVES SOME HARD QUESTIONS: WHEN THE THREAT IS THIS GREAT, IS STRIKING FIRST ***REALLY*** SUCH A BAD IDEA? AND IF--


When it Comes to War, is a Strong Offense the Best Defense?
The David Dispatch Show
467,810
1,186,364 view
You may also like the following Toobs.
Autoplay is ON
Why We Should Nuke the Atlantic (w/Stephan Beeman and Straight Dude Stan)
Screamin' with Beeman
915,839 views
12:33
Everyone has lost their minds over Mermaids (NOT CLICKBAIT!)
Franco McPhillip Show
104,933 views
8:19
I am here to protect you
NEW!
Aspen Matthews subscribed
21,730,002 views
3:27

...I CAN'T PROMISE EVERYONE WILL GET OUT OF THIS UNSCATHED, OR THAT THIS IS GOING TO HAVE A HAPPY ENDING, BUT I ***CAN*** PROMISE YOU THIS--
--I'M GOING TO GET EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THESE MONSTERS BACK INTO STASIS, OR DIE TRYING.


OVER AND OUT.



SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN.
AH, NOW THIS IS THE LIFE!
CAN YOU SMELL THAT? THE SALTY SEA AIR? THERE'S NOTHING QUITE LIKE IT.
I DEFINITELY SMELL SOMETHING, MOSS.
COME ON, YOU CAN'T BLAME ME FOR YOUR GETTING CAPTURED. YOU WERE THE DIPSTICK WHO UNDERESTIMATED ME.
AND BESIDES, YOU COULD'VE JUST SUNBAKED BY THE POOL FOR A FORTNIGHT UNTIL THIS WAS ALL OVER.
I'M NOT MUCH FOR SITTING BACK WITH A COCKTAIL WHILE THE WORLD GOES UP IN FLAMES. CALL ME CRAZY.
YOUR LOSS. YOU AND YOUR MATE COULD'VE ENDED UP WITH ME, ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF HISTORY.
YOU MEAN THE WINNING SIDE.
OH TYLER, IS THERE A DIFFERENCE? THE WINNERS WRITE THE HISTORY BOOKS, LOVE. AND WITH THE TYPHOS POISED TO FLATTEN AMERICA'S PACIFIC COAST, WORLD WAR III IS INEVITABLE.
THE U.S. WILL ATTACK THE BLUE, THE BLUE WILL RETALIATE, AND ON AND ON IT GOES.

YOU'RE DISGUSTING.
THIS IS HOW YOUR COUNTRY WORKS, AFTER ALL: INVADE, DESTROY, REBUILD. I'M JUST A HUMBLE PART OF THE CLEAN-UP CREW. A COG IN THE MACHINE.
RIGHT... A HUMBLE SERVANT MAKING BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN THE PROCESS WHILE YOU CASH IN ON GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.
DO I LOOK LIKE I NEED MORE MONEY? I'M DOING THIS FOR STATUS. THE TYPHOS WILL BE RUNNING A HEFTY CHUNK OF THE WORLD BY THE TIME THIS IS ALL OVER.
AND I'VE SECURED A SEAT NEAR THE THRONE.
SEEMS LIKE YOU AND CANNON HAVE THIS ALL FIGURED OUT. SO WHY ARE WE STILL ALIVE?
NOT MY CHOICE. I'M JUST FOLLOWING ORDERS. IF IT WERE UP TO ME, YOU'D ALL BE--
AHHHHH!
CHOK!

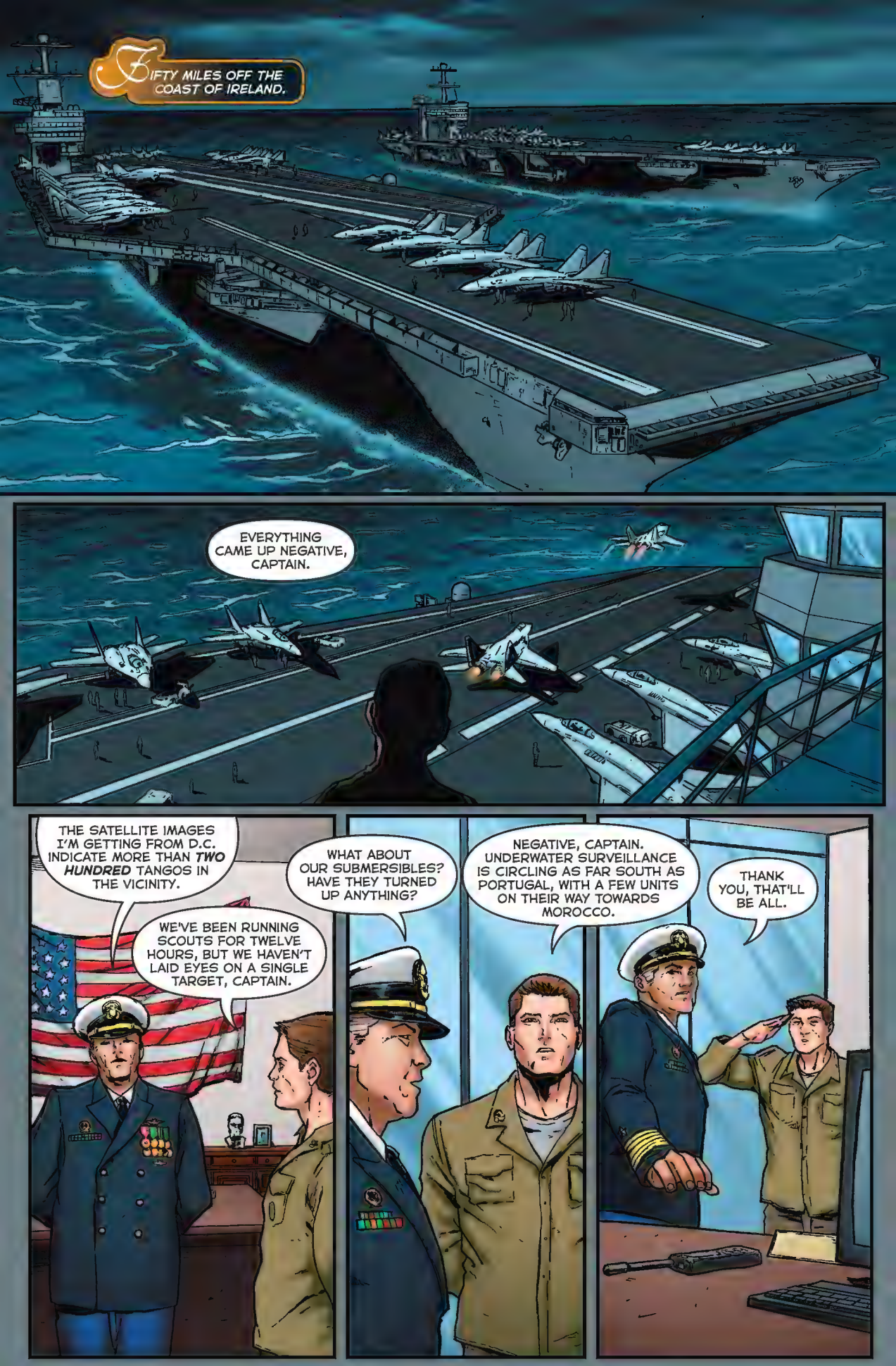
ARRGGHHH!
KRACCK!

ENOUGH!

I KNOW TENSIONS ARE RUNNING HIGH, BUT LET'S TAKE A MOMENT TO JUST ***BREATHE***. TO THINK ABOUT WHAT WE'RE ALL DOING HERE.

I'M MORE POWERFUL THAN YOU, CANNON. AND ***FASTER***. I COULD CAPSIZE THIS TIN CAN WITH A SINGLE THOUGHT-- WE'D BE ROLLED BY A TIDAL WAVE BEFORE YOU COULD NICK HER ARTERY.
CERTAINLY POSSIBLE, BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE A RISKY PROPOSITION. IS THAT A GAMBLE YOU'RE WILLING TO TAKE?

JUST DO IT, ASPEN. IF HE WANTED US DEAD HE'D HAVE GUTTED US BACK ON THE ISLAND.
YOU'RE HALF RIGHT. I'D LIKE TO KEEP ASPEN ALIVE, BUT YOU'RE LITTLE MORE THAN LEVERAGE. I HAVE NO QUALMS ABOUT DRAINING YOU ONTO THIS DECK JUST TO PROVE MY RESOLVE.
LIAR.
I'M FULLY AWARE OF YOUR POWER. YOU CAN FEEL THE SHIFT IN THE OCEAN'S TIDES, RIVERS CASCADING ACROSS CONTINENTS HALF A WORLD AWAY. AND I KNOW YOU CAN FEEL MY PULSE AS WELL.
IS IT ELEVATED RIGHT NOW? IS THE BLOOD COURSING THROUGH MY VEINS?
TELL ME...AM I LYING?


FIFTY MILES OFF THE COAST OF IRELAND.
EVERYTHING CAME UP NEGATIVE, CAPTAIN.
THE SATELLITE IMAGES I'M GETTING FROM D.C. INDICATE MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED TANGOS IN THE VICINITY.
WE'VE BEEN RUNNING SCOUTS FOR TWELVE HOURS, BUT WE HAVEN'T LAID EYES ON A SINGLE TARGET, CAPTAIN.
WHAT ABOUT OUR SUBMERSIBLES? HAVE THEY TURNED UP ANYTHING?
NEGATIVE, CAPTAIN. UNDERWATER SURVEILLANCE IS CIRCLING AS FAR SOUTH AS PORTUGAL, WITH A FEW UNITS ON THEIR WAY TOWARDS MOROCCO.
THANK YOU, THAT'LL BE ALL.

SECURE LINE REQUEST FROM COMMANDING OFFICER O'KEEFFE OF THE U.S.S. ANDREW JACKSON, CLEARANCE CODE 4-8-15-16-23-42.
GET ME GENERAL SOMERVELL.
WASHINGTON, DC.
MATTHEW, GOOD TO HEAR FROM YOU. HOW IS THE ATLANTIC TREATING YOU?
NOT GREAT, CHUCK. WE HAVEN'T SEEN A SINGLE ONE OF THESE TYPHOS CREATURES, AND I'M GETTING RESTLESS.
SOMETHING JUST FEELS WRONG.
I'LL SIMULCAST THE SAT FEED. ARE YOU GETTING IT?
LOOKING AT IT RIGHT NOW.
BIOLUMINESCENCE SCANS ARE SHOWING A SMALL ARMY RIGHT UNDER OUR ASSES, BUT WE HAVE EYES ON EVERY INCH OF LAND AND SEA FROM HERE TO AFRICA. NOT A SINGLE TARGET TO SHOOT AT.
AND WHAT ABOUT THE BLUE-- HAVE YOU HEARD BACK FROM THE THEM?
THEIR LEADER REPORTED IN AN HOUR AGO. THEY HAVE AN ENTIRE LEGION PATROLLING THE NORTH ATLANTIC AND THEY'RE COMING UP EMPTY, TOO.
IF THE TYPHOS ARE IN THE AREA, THEY MUST HAVE SOME PRETTY ADVANCED CLOAKING TECH. IS THAT POSSIBLE?
AFTER THE $#!*-STORM THAT WENT DOWN IN SAN DIEGO, I RECKON THAT JUST ABOUT ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.
STAY THE COURSE. IF THE SATELLITES SAY THE TYPHOS ARE NEARBY, THEY'RE NEARBY...AND WHEN THEY FINALLY SHOW THEIR FACES, YOU HAVE MY BLESSING TO USHER THEM TO THE GATES OF HELL.
WITH PLEASURE.

KEEP THIS ONE CLOSE. IF ASPEN HAS ANOTHER ***TEMPER TANTRUM***, PLEASE TEAR OUT HER SPINAL COLUMN.
YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH THIS? THE COUNCIL WILL SEND OUR ENTIRE ***LEGION*** AFTER YOU, AND ONCE THEY CAPTURE AND CONVICT YOU OF TREASON, THEY'LL--
WHY DO YOU PUT SO MUCH FAITH IN THE ELITE COUNCIL? WHY DO YOU BLINDLY FOLLOW THEIR LEAD, BELIEVING EVERYTHING THEY SAY?
WHAT'S THE ALTERNATIVE? LISTENING TO ***YOU?***
THEY'VE BEEN LYING TO YOU, ASPEN. LYING TO ***ALL*** OF US FOR ***GENERATIONS.*** IF YOU KNEW EVEN A FRACTION OF WHAT I KNOW...
I KNOW THAT YOU'RE A BACKSTABBING COWARD WHO TURNED HIS BACK ON HIS PEOPLE. YOUR PURPOSE WAS TO STOP THE HUMANS FROM DISCOVERING WE EXIST, AND NOW YOU UNLEASH THESE MONSTERS ON THEIR SHORES?
WHY DESTROY ***EVERYTHING*** YOU'VE EVER WORKED FOR? THIS ISN'T ***YOU.***
MAYBE YOU DON'T KNOW ME AS WELL AS YOU THINK, ASPEN. AND YOU CERTAINLY DON'T KNOW YOUR FRIENDS ON THE COUNCIL.
WE HAVE NOTHING BUT TIME ON OUR HANDS WHILE WE WAIT FOR THE END OF THE WORLD. WHY DON'T YOU FILL IN THE BLANKS?

THE TYPHOS AREN'T DISTANTLY RELATED TO THE BLUE, LIKE THEIR ARCTIC COUSINS. THEY WERE MADE. COOKED UP IN A LAB OVER A THOUSAND YEARS AGO BY THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST.
THEY'RE GENETICALLY ENGINEERED SUPER-BEINGS, DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE BLUE FROM A POTENTIAL HUMAN UPRISING. LIVING WEAPONS.
YOU CAN'T BLAME THEIR PARANOIA. THEY'D SEEN THE HUMANS INTERACT WITH EACH OTHER...TO THE BLUE COUNCIL, THE LAND DWELLERS WERE LITTLE MORE THAN APES WITH SHARP OBJECTS CUTTING EACH OTHER DOWN OVER INCREASINGLY SMALL PATCHES OF DIRT.
WHILE NOWHERE NEAR AS ADVANCED AS THE BLUE, HUMAN TECHNOLOGY SLOWLY IMPROVED. BEFORE LONG THEY WANTED DOMINION OVER MORE THAN JUST LAND.
THEIR EXPEDITIONS SENT THEM ACROSS THE OCEANS, AND EVENTUALLY, TO THE STARS.
BUT VOYAGING INTO THE BEYOND WASN'T ENOUGH TO SATISFY THEM. THEY CREATED NEW TOOLS TO DOMINATE AND DESTROY THEIR FELLOW MAN... AND EACH NEW TECHNOLOGICAL TERROR WAS MORE HORRIFYING THAN THE LAST.
AS A WISE HUMAN ONCE SAID, SOMETIMES PARANOIA IS JUST HAVING ALL THE FACTS.

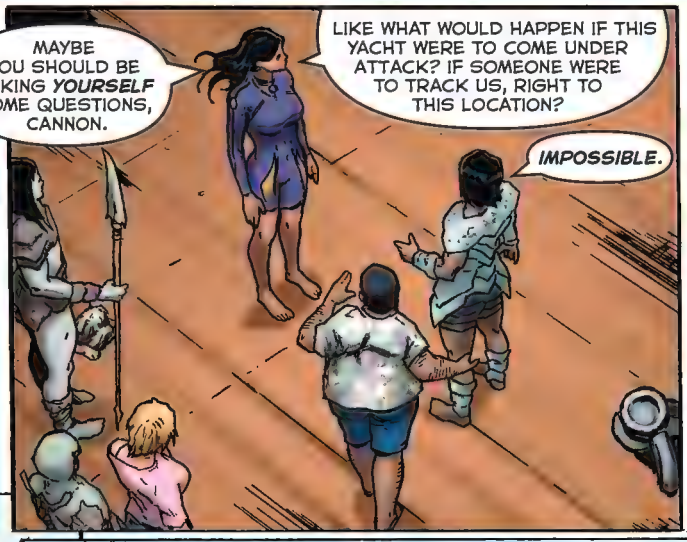
THE SEAS BEING DESTROYED DURING A HUMAN WAR IS OUR DOOMSDAY SCENARIO, OF COURSE, BUT THE SLOW POISONING OF OUR HOME HAS BEEN ONGOING.
A THOUSAND YEARS AGO, WATERS RAN CRYSTAL CLEAR AROUND THE GLOBE. NOW, MANY RIVERS AND LAKES ARE POLLUTED BEYOND SALVATION.
HALF THE OCEAN'S SPECIES HAVE DISAPPEARED IN THE LAST FIFTY YEARS ALONE, AND THE BENEVOLENT HUMAN POPULATION DOESN'T SEEM ESPECIALLY CONCERNED.
I DOUBT THEY'D LOSE ANY SLEEP IF THE BLUE WERE ADDED TO THE EXTINCTION LIST.
THAT'S WHY THE NEEDS OF OUR SPECIES HAVE TO COME FIRST.
THE COUNCIL IS AN ANACHRONISM-- A QUAINT BUT OUTDATED CONCEPT THAT SHOULD BE REPLACED. IT'S EXISTENCE HAS ONLY WEAKENED THE BLUE, AND PUT THE OCEANS AT RISK. PUT US AT RISK.
BEFORE THE COUNCIL, THE BLUE LIVED IN PEACE UNDER A MONARCHY. FOR MILLENNIA IT WAS A NEAR-PERFECT SYSTEM-- NO VOTING, NO COUNCIL, LIVING WITHOUT FEAR OF INVADING FORCES.
IF WE RETURN MURIA TO ITS FORMER GLORY, IMAGINE THE LEGACY WE'LL LEAVE BEHIND. PEACE, PROSPERITY, SECURITY. WE'LL ENSURE THE SURVIVAL OF OUR SPECIES.

WE NEED TO RECLAIM OUR RIGHTFUL PLACE AS LEADERS OF LAND AND SEA.
TOGETHER, WE'LL MAKE MURIA NOT ONLY THE BLUE CAPITAL CITY, BUT THE WORLD'S CAPITAL.
WAIT... WE?!
WHY NOT? ONCE MURIA IS WEAKENED, WE CAN DISSOLVE THE COUNCIL AND OVERTHROW THE LYING HYPOCRITES WHO HAVE ABUSED THEIR POWER FOR TOO LONG.
SO YOU WANT TO DESTROY THE CURRENT POWER STRUCTURE, AND WHAT-- BECOME KING? AND WHAT WOULD THAT MAKE ME?
UGH, DON'T EVEN ANSWER THAT-- THIS IS MADNESS! DO THESE TYPHOS CREATURES EVEN KNOW YOU'RE USING THEM? THAT THEY'RE PAWNS?
AFTER YOU HELPED RELEASE THEM, THEY WERE AIMLESS. I SIMPLY PROVIDED THEM WITH THE LEADERSHIP THEY NEEDED.
THEY'RE MINDLESS KILLING MACHINES! THEY'D FOLLOW SEAWEED IF IT COULD POINT THEM IN THE DIRECTION OF A BATTLE.
THEY SAW AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER. THAT'S WHY THEY FOLLOW ME.
THERE'S MORE TO THIS-- THEY THOUGHT I HAD SOMETHING THAT BELONGED TO THEM. WHAT IS THE FAILSAFE THEY KEEP TALKING ABOUT? AND WHY DO THEY THINK I'M COMING AFTER IT?
WHAT DID YOU CONVINCE THEM OF?
ASPEN, YOU'RE AS BAD AS YOUR REPORTER FRIEND. ALWAYS LOOKING FOR ANSWERS IN THE WRONG PLACES.

FOCUS THAT RAGE OF YOURS. START ASKING YOURSELF WHAT KIND OF A WORLD YOU WANT TO LIVE IN...WHAT WILL THE OCEANS LOOK LIKE IN TWENTY YEARS. FIFTY YEARS.
WHAT KIND OF A FUTURE WILL THIS PLANET HAVE IF WE LET THE HUMANS RUN ROUGHSHOD OVER THE OCEANS?

WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

JUST TAKING IN THE SEA AIR...
YOU'RE WHAT?


MAYBE YOU SHOULD BE ASKING YOURSELF SOME QUESTIONS, CANNON.
LIKE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THIS YACHT WERE TO COME UNDER ATTACK? IF SOMEONE WERE TO TRACK US, RIGHT TO THIS LOCATION?
IMPOSSIBLE.

I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT THE AMERICANS HAVE THEIR ENTIRE FLEET IN THE ATLANTIC, AND THE BLUE FOLLOWED THEM OVER TO TRACK DOWN THE TYPHOS...ANYONE WHO COULD HELP YOU IS HALF A WORLD AWAY.

AND BESIDES, HOW WOULD YOU HAVE GOTTEN WORD TO YOUR MATES THAT YOU WERE IN DANGER? AS FAR AS THEY KNOW YOU'RE ON A VACAY.

ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH A 'DURESS CODE'? SENDING OUT A CODED MESSAGE TO SOMEONE IN CASE OF EMERGENCY SO THEY'LL COME TO YOUR RESCUE?
BECAUSE I SENT ONE OUT YESTERDAY.
I'VE BEEN BLOCKING ALL CELL RECEPTION AND MONITORING INTERNET USAGE. YOU DIDN'T SO MUCH AS SEND AN EMAIL, LOVE.
TRUE, BUT I DID RELEASE A YOOTOOB VIDEO WITH A VERY SPECIFIC SET OF WORDS IN IT...A CALL FOR HELP.
AND JUDGING BY THE CHANGE IN AIR PRESSURE, HE GOT THE MESSAGE.
UGGGGH...PAUL, I'M GLAD YOU'RE NOT AS SICK AS I AM. I SHOULDN'T HAVE EATEN THOSE CRAB CAKES FOR BREAKFAST...
AND THOSE MIMOSAS...
HUH, WHERE DID THOSE COME FROM?

PAK
PAK
PAK
PAK
PAK
PAK
PAK
THIS CAN'T BE GOOD NEWS, MATE...
PAK
PAK

JOKER, YOU DO NOT HAVE PERMISSION TO FIRE UNTIL FIRED UPON! THIS WAS ONLY APPROVED AS A RECONNAISSANCE MISSION!
WE'RE ABORTING RIGHT NOW. DO YOU COPY?
JOKER
I REPEAT: BACK OFF, CHANCE! DON'T FIRE YOUR SIDEWINDERS. NOW THAT WE HAVE CONFIRMATION WE'LL HEAD BACK TO BASE AND AWAIT INSTRUCTIONS.
THERE'S NO TIME! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THESE MONSTERS ARE CAPABLE OF.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHO WE'RE DEALING WITH! ASPEN IS DOWN THERE ALONE, AND SHE NEEDS BACKUP!
INCOMING! BREAK FORMATION NOW!
NEGATIVE. I'M MISSILE LOCKED ONTO YOU. HEAD BACK TO BASE IMMEDIATELY, BEFORE YOU FORCE ME TO TAKE AC--
JOKER

KA-BOOOOOM!!!
LET'S SEE HOW YOU DEAL WITH A PAIR OF MISSILES, YOU SON OF A B**CH.
JOKER
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?! DISENGAGE MISSILE LOCK, CHANCE!
YOUR GIRL IS NEVER GOING TO SURVIVE IF YOU PRESS THAT BUTTON!
YOU'D BE SURPRISED WHAT MY GIRL CAN SURVIVE.
WHAT THE HELL IS YOUR BOYFRIEND DOING HERE?!
EXACTLY WHAT I WANTED HIM TO DO: CAUSE CHAOS!

HUFF HUFF HOW-- HOW DID WE SURVIVE THAT?
AND IS THAT... PAUL?
OOH! CAN WE KEEP HIM?
WHERE? YOU DESTROYED OUR BEACH HOUSE, REMEMBER? WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO, LEASE A FARM?
ASPEN...
YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR THUGS TO BACK YOU UP, CANNON. DROP THE SPEAR AND I WON'T HURT YOU...MUCH.
YOU REALLY THINK YOU'VE WON? MY TYPHOS GUARDS WILL BE HERE ANY MOMENT. YOU HAVE NOWHERE TO RUN, NOWHERE TO HIDE.
IN MERE MOMENTS I'LL HAVE YOU BOTH SHACKLED.

ARRRGH!
WE RECEIVED WORD FROM *CHANCE CALLOWAY* THAT YOU WERE IN DANGER. HE CONTACTED US THROUGH A SECURE CHANNEL AND LET US KNOW WHERE TO LOOK.
LUCKILY A FEW WARRIORS REMAINED IN MURIA.
YOU'RE GOING ON TRIAL IN FRONT OF THE COUNCIL, CANNON. ALL THIS SELF-AGGRANDIZING, ALL THIS NOSTALGIC BULL$#/* ABOUT RETURNING THE BLUE TO THE DARK AGES-- IT'S *OVER.*
YOU HAVE *NO IDEA* WHAT'S IN STORE, ASPEN...I'M JUST GETTING STARTED.
TO BE CONTINUED...

BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
VOL. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#6
OF 8
COVER A
aspencomics.com

BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
VOL. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM™
#6
OF 8
COVER B
aspencomics.com

PREVIOUSLY IN:

On R.J. Moss' yacht, Cannon Hawke and The Typhos' plan to instigate World War 3 between the humans and The Blue was interrupted when Chance Calloway—in his fighter jet—decided to take matters into his own hands. While Cannon managed to barely survive the aerial assault aboard the yacht and make his way to shore, Siphon and his soldiers arrived just in time to capture him...

ASPEN COMICS PRESENTS

All New Fathom

PART 6 of 8

Blake Northcott
writer

Marco Renna
pencils

Mark Roslan
digital inks

John Starr
colors

Zen
letters

Vince Hernandez, Gabe Carrasco *-editors*

Mark Roslan, Peter Steigerwald, Gabe Carrasco *-design & production*

Direct Edition:
Marco Renna
John Starr

Direct Edition:
Tina Valentino
John Starr

Retailer Incentive Edition:
Harvey Talibao
Peter Steigerwald

Comic-Con International:
San Diego 2017 Exclusive
Limited Edition of 200
by **Paolo Pantalena**
& **Peter Steigerwald**

FATHOM CREATED BY MICHAEL TURNER

For Aspen: Founder: Michael Turner Co-Owner: Peter Steigerwald Co-Owner/President: Frank Mastromauro
Vice President/Editor in Chief: Vince Hernandez Vice President/Design and Production: Mark Roslan Editor: Gabe Carrasco
Office Manager: Megan Madrigal Production Assistant: Justice Editorial Intern: Mexi Gremillion AspenStore.com: Chris Rupp

ALL NEW MICHAEL TURNER'S FATHOM™ Vol. 6 Issue 6 JULY 2017. DIGITAL COPY.

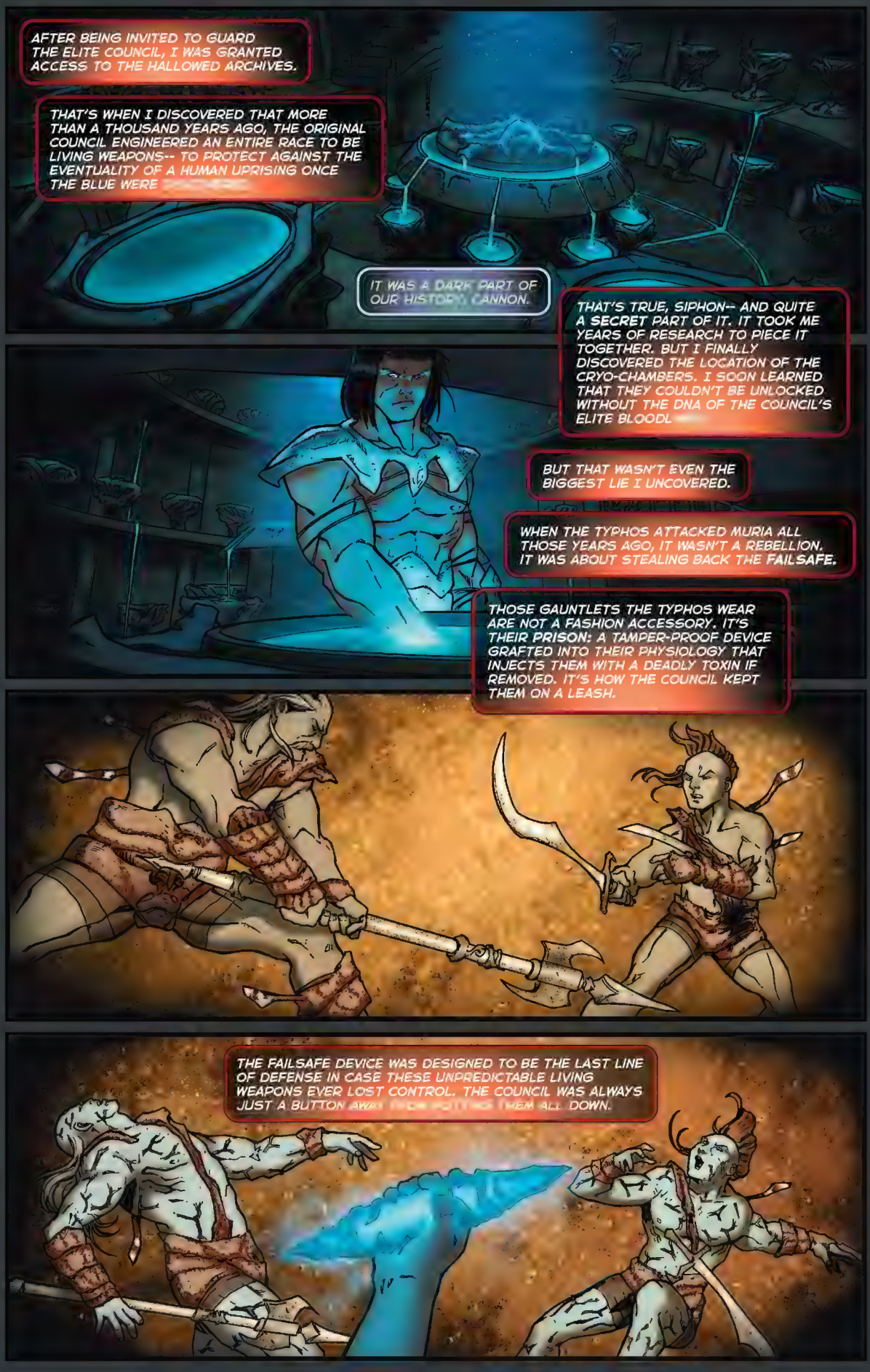
Published by Aspen MLT, Inc., Office of Publication: 5701 W. Slauson Ave. Suite. 120, Culver City, CA 90230. The Aspen MLT, Inc. logo® is a registered trademark of Aspen MLT, Inc. All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ and the All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ logo, are the trademarks of Aspen MLT, Inc. The entire contents of this book, all artwork, characters and their likenesses are © 2017 Aspen MLT, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Comic-Con and the Comic-Con logo are registered trademarks of San Diego Comic Convention. Any similarities between names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with persons living or dead or institutions is unintendad and is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this book may be reprinted, reproduced or transmitted by any means or in any form without the express written consent of Aspen MLT, Inc.

Visit us on the web at WWW.ASPENCOMICS.COM Find us on Facebook at FACEBOOK.COM/ASPENCOMICS Follow us on Twitter at TWITTER.COM/ASPENCOMICS For more Aspen Comics go to WWW.ASPENSTORE.COM

For the comics retailer nearest you call: 1888-COMIC-BOOK » International rights representative: Kelly Mastromauro (publishing@aspencomics.com)

MURIA, CAPITAL CITY OF THE BLUE.
CANNON HAWKE, YOU ARE GUILTY OF TREASON AGAINST THE ELITE BLUE COUNCIL, AND AGAINST THE CAPITAL CITY OF MURIA. YOUR SENTENCE WILL BE CARRIED OUT IMMEDIATELY.
YOU NEVER WERE ONE TO WASTE TIME, SIPHON. I ALWAYS LIKED THAT ABOUT YOU.

YOU ARE WELL AWARE OF HOW THINGS WORK AND YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A FINAL STATEMENT.
IT WILL BROADCAST TO THE ENTIRE BLUE COLLECTIVE ACROSS THE OCEANS. THE WORDS YOU SPEAK WILL BE BINDING AND LOGGED INTO THE ARCHIVES.
I SUGGEST YOU MAKE THEM COUNT, BECAUSE THIS IS YOUR LEGACY.
YOU SHOULD TURN THAT OFF, BECAUSE I GUARANTEE YOU'RE GOING TO WANT MY STATEMENT TO STAY IN THIS ROOM.
VERY WELL. IF YOU ARE DECLINING YOUR FINAL WORDS BEFORE SENTENCING, IT IS YOUR PREROGATIVE.
I'M NOT DECLINING TO SPEAK-- I'M DECLINING THE SENTENCING. IN ABOUT FIVE MINUTES YOU'RE GOING TO REMOVE THESE CUFFS, AND I'M GOING TO LEAVE HERE A FREE MAN.
ALWAYS A FLAIR FOR THE DRAMATIC... IT IS ONE OF THE THINGS I LIKE LEAST ABOUT YOU.
I'M GOING TO TELL YOU MY STORY, OFF THE RECORD. AND THEN WE CAN NEGOTIATE THE TERMS OF MY RELEASE.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU GUYS, BUT I'M DYING TO HEAR HOW HE FILLS IN SOME OF THESE PLOT HOLES. I JUST WISH I HAD SOME POPCORN.
LET'S HEAR IT, CANNON. EXPLAIN HOW YOU BETRAYED BOTH THE BLUE AND THE HUMANS.

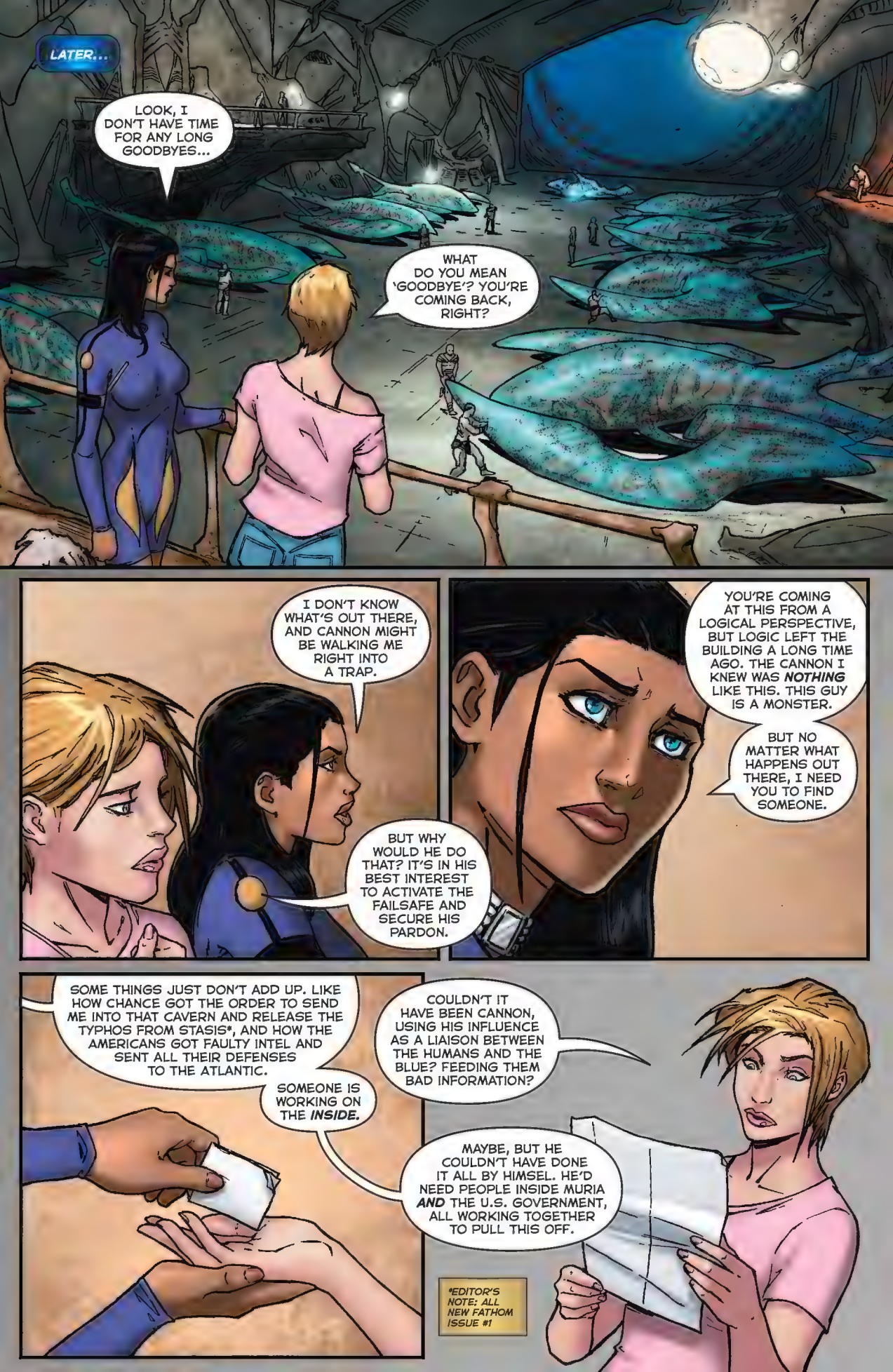

AFTER BEING INVITED TO GUARD THE ELITE COUNCIL, I WAS GRANTED ACCESS TO THE HALLOWED ARCHIVES.
THAT'S WHEN I DISCOVERED THAT MORE THAN A THOUSAND YEARS AGO, THE ORIGINAL COUNCIL ENGINEERED AN ENTIRE RACE TO BE LIVING WEAPONS-- TO PROTECT AGAINST THE EVENTUALITY OF A HUMAN UPRISING ONCE THE BLUE WERE
IT WAS A DARK PART OF OUR HISTORY, CANNON.
THAT'S TRUE, SIPHON-- AND QUITE A SECRET PART OF IT. IT TOOK ME YEARS OF RESEARCH TO PIECE IT TOGETHER. BUT I FINALLY DISCOVERED THE LOCATION OF THE CRYO-CHAMBERS. I SOON LEARNED THAT THEY COULDN'T BE UNLOCKED WITHOUT THE DNA OF THE COUNCIL'S ELITE BLOODL
BUT THAT WASN'T EVEN THE BIGGEST LIE I UNCOVERED.
WHEN THE TYPHOS ATTACKED MURIA ALL THOSE YEARS AGO, IT WASN'T A REBELLION. IT WAS ABOUT STEALING BACK THE FAILSAFE.
THOSE GAUNTLETS THE TYPHOS WEAR ARE NOT A FASHION ACCESSORY. IT'S THEIR PRISON: A TAMPER-PROOF DEVICE GRAFTED INTO THEIR PHYSIOLOGY THAT INJECTS THEM WITH A DEADLY TOXIN IF REMOVED. IT'S HOW THE COUNCIL KEPT THEM ON A LEASH.
THE FAILSAFE DEVICE WAS DESIGNED TO BE THE LAST LINE OF DEFENSE IN CASE THESE UNPREDICTABLE LIVING WEAPONS EVER LOST CONTROL. THE COUNCIL WAS ALWAYS JUST A BUTTON AWAY FROM PUTTING THEM ALL DOWN.

WHY DIDN'T THE ORIGINAL COUNCIL JUST ACTIVATE THE DEVICE WHEN THINGS WENT BAD AND END THE FAILED EXPERIMENT?
SHOULD YOU TELL THEM, OR SHOULD I?
AT THE TIME, THE COUNCIL THOUGHT THEY COULD ***CONTAIN*** THE THREAT. PREVENT THE NEED TO WIPE OUT THE ENTIRE RACE BY PUTTING THEM INTO STASIS. IT WAS AN ACT OF COMPASSION.
EVEN ***YOU*** CAN'T BE NAIVE ENOUGH TO BELIEVE THAT, SIPHON.
IT WAS DONE TO PROTECT THEIR ***INVESTMENT***. THOSE SELFISH MURIANS SACRIFICED COUNTLESS BLUE LIVES BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T WANT TO PULL THE PLUG AND BREAK THEIR NEW TOYS.
AFTER THE RAID ON THE CAPITOL, THE TYPHOS STOLE THE FAILSAFE AND HID IT.
WHY NOT JUST DESTROY THE FAILSAFE? THEN THEY'D BE FREE.
THE TYPHOS COULDN'T KNOW IF DESTROYING THE DEVICE WOULD TRIGGER IT. THEY'RE IRRATIONAL LUNATICS, BUT APPARENTLY THEY WERE SMART ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT OF SELF-PRESERVATION. IT'S WHY THEY'RE WILLING TO DIE TO PROTECT IT.
OR KILL FOR. NOW THE ATTACK IN SAN DIEGO MAKES SENSE...YOU TOLD THEM ***I*** WAS AFTER IT.
OF COURSE. I HAD TO EARN THEIR TRUST, WHICH MEANT TURNING ON THE BLUE.

BUT THE UPSIDE IS THIS: ONCE I TOOK OVER AS THEIR LEADER, THEY TOLD ME WHERE THE FAILSAFE WAS HIDDEN.
SO WE LET YOU FREE, AND YOU'LL POINT US TO THE LOCATION OF THE FAILSAFE?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS! THE BLUE'S LEGION OUTNUMBERS THE TYPHOS BY A WIDE MARGIN, AND WE HAVE SUPERIOR TECHNOLOGY. WE DON'T NEED THE FAILSAFE TO APPREHEND THEM AND PUT THEM BACK INTO STASIS.
IF YOU HAD MONTHS TO HUNT THEM DOWN, SURE. BUT OUR TIMELINES ARE A LITTLE TIGHTER THAN THAT.
RIGHT NOW, THE FIRST WAVE SHOULD BE IN MOTION. MAJOR PACIFIC COAST CITIES ARE BEING TARGETED. WITH THE BLUE AND AMERICAN FORCES ALL GATHERED IN THE ATLANTIC, THERE IS NO ONE TO STOP THEM... AT LEAST FOR AWHILE.
LONG ENOUGH TO TRIGGER WORLD WAR THREE-- BLUE VERSUS HUMANS.
YOU'RE INSANE.
UM, SIPHON... YOU NEED TO SEE THIS. RIGHT NOW.
PROJECT IT.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.
IT'S ALREADY BEGUN. WITHOUT THE BLUE TO HELP MOUNT A DEFENSE, THE ENTIRE PACIFIC IS OPEN TO ATTACK.
SIPHON, I'LL GO THERE RIGHT NOW AND FIGHT.
THIS IS AN ARMY. NOT EVEN THE GREAT ASPEN MATTHEWS CAN TURN BACK A THREAT OF THIS SIZE.
IN THE COMING HOURS, MORE CITIES WILL FALL. YOU'RE OUT OF TIME. AND OUT OF OPTIONS.

HE'S RIGHT-- WE NEED TO TRIGGER THE FAILSAFE. LET'S DO IT NOW.
YOU ALL KNOW HOW IT WORKS.
IT'S A TWO-PERSON OPERATION TO ACTIVATE IT, AND I NEED SOMEONE FROM THE ELITE BLOODLINE TO ACCOMPANY ME.
OH YOU'VE *GOT* TO BE KIDDING ME.
EVERY MOMENT THAT PASSES, MORE HUMAN LIVES ARE LOST. AND YOUR CHANCES OF RECONCILING WITH THE HUMANS CONTINUE TO DETERIORATE.
GO NOW. YOU WILL HAVE A SHIP TO REACH YOUR DESTINATION, AS WELL AS AN ARMED ESCORT.
AND BY DECLARATION OF THE ELITE COUNCIL, YOU, ASPEN MATTHEWS, HAVE PERMISSION TO EXECUTE CANNON HAWKE SHOULD HE DEVIATE FROM THE MISSION IN ANY WAY.
THAT SOUNDS FAIR. BUT I'M GOING TO NEED SOMETHING MORE CONCRETE TO GUARANTEE MY FREEDOM. A ***BINDING STATEMENT*** ON THE EMBLEM OF MURIA SHOULD SUFFICE.
THIS IS INCONCEIVABLE! IN THE HISTORY OF MURIA, NO ONE HAS EVER BEEN PARDONED FOR SEDITION.
THESE ARE DESPERATE TIMES.
BY THE EMBLEM OF MURIA AND THE ELITE COUNCIL, CANNON HAWKE WILL BE PARDONED OF ALL WRONG-DOING ONCE THE FAILSAFE HAS BEEN ACTIVATED. SO IT HAS BEEN STATED. SO SHALL IT BE.
YOU STEP OUT OF LINE, JUST ***THIS*** MUCH, AND I'LL TEAR YOUR INSIDES OUT THROUGH YOUR NOSTRILS.
GLAD TO BE PART OF THE TEAM. SO ARE YOU DRIVING, OR SHOULD I?


LATER...
LOOK, I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR ANY LONG GOODBYES...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN 'GOODBYE'? YOU'RE COMING BACK, RIGHT?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S OUT THERE, AND CANNON MIGHT BE WALKING ME RIGHT INTO A TRAP.
BUT WHY WOULD HE DO THAT? IT'S IN HIS BEST INTEREST TO ACTIVATE THE FAILSAFE AND SECURE HIS PARDON.
YOU'RE COMING AT THIS FROM A LOGICAL PERSPECTIVE, BUT LOGIC LEFT THE BUILDING A LONG TIME AGO. THE CANNON I KNEW WAS ***NOTHING*** LIKE THIS. THIS GUY IS A MONSTER.
BUT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS OUT THERE, I NEED YOU TO FIND SOMEONE.
SOME THINGS JUST DON'T ADD UP. LIKE HOW CHANCE GOT THE ORDER TO SEND ME INTO THAT CAVERN AND RELEASE THE TYPHOS FROM STASIS*, AND HOW THE AMERICANS GOT FAULTY INTEL AND SENT ALL THEIR DEFENSES TO THE ATLANTIC.
SOMEONE IS WORKING ON THE ***INSIDE.***
COULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN CANNON, USING HIS INFLUENCE AS A LIAISON BETWEEN THE HUMANS AND THE BLUE? FEEDING THEM BAD INFORMATION?
MAYBE, BUT HE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT ALL BY HIMSEL. HE'D NEED PEOPLE INSIDE MURIA ***AND*** THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, ALL WORKING TOGETHER TO PULL THIS OFF.
*EDITOR'S NOTE: ALL NEW FATHOM ISSUE #1

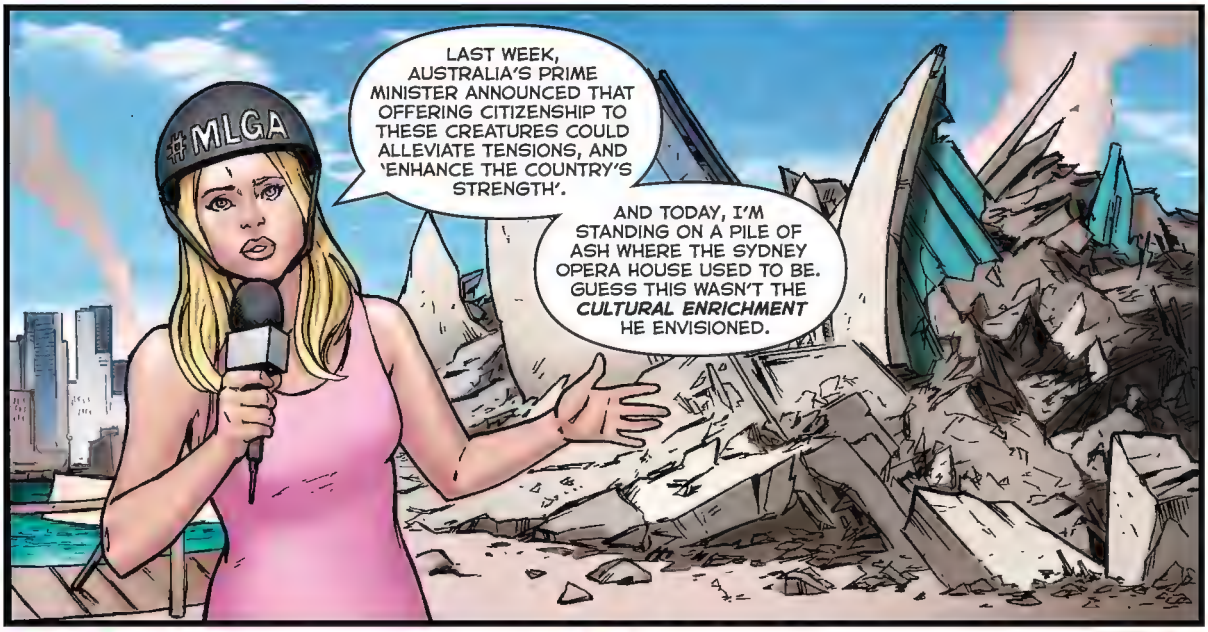
ALL RIGHT, I'M ON IT. WHILE I'M UP THERE DO YOU NEED ANYTHING ELSE?
I NEED YOU TO TELL MY STORY. THE REAL STORY-- LET THE WORLD KNOW WHAT HAPPENED HERE. DON'T LET THE KEYBOARD WARRIORS RUN AWAY WITH THIS AND USE IT TO PUSH THEIR OWN AGENDAS.
YOU'RE SCARING ME. NOW YOU'RE REALLY STARTING TO SOUND LIKE YOU AREN'T COMING BACK.
THIS IS IT, TYLER. IF WE DON'T ACTIVATE THIS FAILSAFE, EVERYTHING THE BLUE HAVE SPENT GENERATIONS BUILDING WILL COME CRUMBLING DOWN. I NEED TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO STOP THAT FROM HAPPENING.
SORRY TO INTERRUPT, BUT WE REALLY NEED TO GET MOVING. THE VEHICLES ARE SET TO GO, AND CANNON SAYS WE CAN BE THERE IN THIRTY MINUTES.
AND ONE MORE THING-- PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU DO EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER TO EXONERATE CHANCE. WHAT HE DID FOR US ON THE YACHT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN LEGAL, AND I'M SURE HE'S STARING DOWN THE BARREL OF A GUN RIGHT NOW.
HE'S A SURVIVOR. AN ANNOYING, LOUDMOUTHED JACKASS WHO WEARS WAY TOO MUCH PRODUCT IN HIS HAIR, BUT HE'S A SURVIVOR NONETHELESS. TRUST ME, HE'S GOING TO BE FINE.
SKRIT SKRIT

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.
THINGS ARE PRETTY #€%*ING FAR FROM FINE, CHANCE.
WELL I HAVEN'T BEEN ARRESTED BY THE M.P., SO THAT'S SOMETHING, RIGHT?
DON'T GET TOO EXCITED. YOU FIRED A MISSILE INTO A NON-MILITARY TARGET. I'M SURE YOUR SUPERIORS ARE GOING TO HAVE A LENGTHY CHAT WITH YOU ABOUT THAT LITTLE STUNT.
I TOLD YOU, CANNON FIRED ON US! TOOK OUT ONE OF OUR OWN!
RDROOM
JUST KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT IN THERE.
GOOD AFTERNOON. WE REPRESENT RILEY J. MOSS.
LIKE, ALL OF YOU?
SHUT. UP. NOW.
WHY ISN'T MISTER CALLOWAY IN HANDCUFFS? IN LIGHT OF YESTERDAY'S ATTACK, I THINK IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.
BECAUSE MY CLIENT HASN'T BEEN ARRESTED--HIS MILITARY TRIAL IS PENDING.
YOU'RE JUST LUCKY MISTER MOSS SURVIVED THIS SAVAGE ATTACK, ALONG WITH HIS GUESTS...THE ARTIST KNOWN AS 'KRIS MACHINE GUN', AND A BABY GIRAFFE NAMED 'PAUL'.
HE'S A LLAMA.
LET THE RECORD SHOW THAT IT WAS A LLAMA, AND NOT A BABY GIRAFFE AS PREVIOUS STATED.
NOTED.

THERE WERE TYPHOS WARRIORS ON THAT YACHT! I HAD TO FIRE OR THEY'D HAVE KILLED ASPEN AND TYLER!
MY CLIENT HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF THESE ALLEGED TYPHOS WARRIORS, AND EVEN IF HE DID--
--WHICH HE DOESN'T.
THEY CERTAINLY WEREN'T ON HIS YACHT ON THE DAY IN QUESTION. IT WAS A PLEASURE CRUISE WITH FRIENDS, NOTHING MORE.
HOW DOES YOUR CLIENT EXPLAIN THE PRESENCE OF ASPEN MATTHEWS ON HIS SHIP, THEN?
IT'S NOT A CRIME TO HAVE GUESTS ON MY SHIP.
MY CLIENT ASSERTS THAT ASPEN SENT HIM A DURESS CODE, HIDDEN IN A YOOTOOB VIDEO THE DAY PRIOR TO THE ATTACK. SHE WAS A HOSTAGE.
AND WHERE IS MISS MATTHEWS? SHOULDN'T SHE BE HERE VOUCHING FOR MISTER CALLOWAY IF THAT'S TRULY THE CASE?
LISTEN YOU SON OF A B**CH, I HAVE NO IDEA HOW YOU'RE INVOLVED WITH THE TYPHOS, BUT WHEN I FIND OUT, YOUR YACHT WON'T BE THE ONLY THING IN PIECES AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PACIFIC!
I'LL TAKE YOUR OWN ANCHOR AND SHOVE IT SO FAR UP YOUR A--
WHAT MY CLIENT MEANT TO SAY IS THAT HE DISAGREES WITH THE FUNDAMENTALS OF THE CASE YOU'RE PRESENTING.
YOU HAVE NOTHING ON ME, MATE. I'M A BLOODY BILLIONAIRE.
ALLEGEDLY.
I'M GOING TO EMPTY YOUR BANK ACCOUNT IN THIS CIVIL SUIT, PUBLICLY HUMILIATE YOU, AND THEN I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE YOU SPEND THE NEXT TWO DECADES IN A MILITARY PRISON.

HOLY $#!*, YOU GUYS HAVE TO SEE THIS!
I'M GOING TO CAST IT TO THE BOARDROOM'S PROJECTOR.
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA. SEVENTY-EIGHT DEAD. HUNDREDS MORE INJURED IN THE MOST DEADLY ATTACK IN THE NATION'S HISTORY.
DON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD! OUR CLIENT IS CLEARLY EMOTIONALLY DISTRESSED BY THE EVENTS UNFOLDING IN AUSTRALIA RIGHT NOW.
WE'RE POSTPONING THIS UNTIL A LATER DATE! MISTER MOSS, PLEASE COME WITH US IMMEDIATELY...
T-THAT'S... THAT'S SYDNEY. THAT'S MY HOMETOWN. H-HE SAID IT WOULD BE OFF-LIMITS. HE TOLD ME JAPAN, AND AMERICA, AND CANADA WERE ALL FAIR GAME...B-BUT HE SAID OZ WOULD BE SAFE.

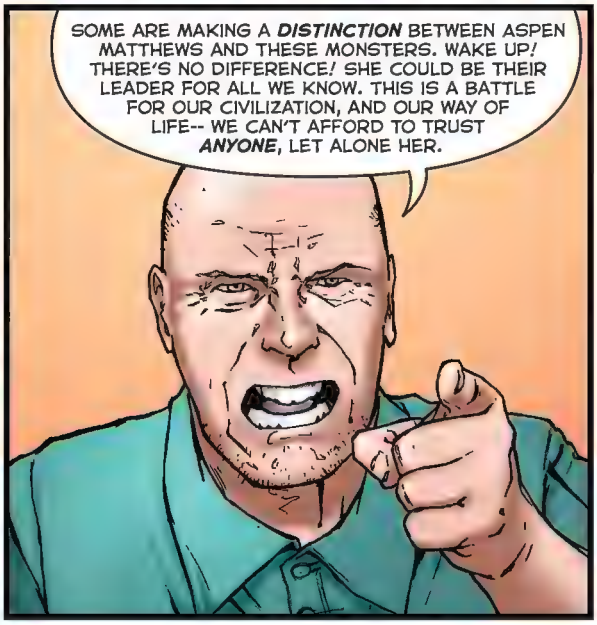
I SAW HIM WITH MY OWN EYES ON THAT DECK-- IT WAS CANNON HAWKE, WASN'T IT? WHAT THE HELL DID HE TALK YOU INTO?
H-HE SAID...THINGS WOULD GET WORSE BEFORE THEY GOT BETTER, BUT... SEEING IT...FOR REAL...
WHEN WAR IS AN ABSTRACT CONCEPT IT'S A LOT EASIER TO DIGEST, ISN'T IT? YOU WEREN'T PREPARED FOR THE REAL THING.
I REALLY DO HAVE TO INSIST WE ADJOURN THIS MEETING UNTIL A FURTHER DATE, AND THAT YOU CEASE COMMUNICATION IMMEDIATELY UNLESS YOU--
SHUT UP! I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE BLOODY LAWSUIT ANYMORE.
WHATEVER YOU DID IN THE PAST, WHATEVER DEAL YOU MADE WITH CANNON, IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE. ALL THAT MATTERS NOW IS THAT YOU CAN HELP STOP THIS BEFORE ANY MORE DAMAGE IS DONE.
YOU SAW THE DEATH TOLL... IT'S...IT'S TOO LATE NOW. I'M GOING TO BE BRANDED A MONSTER AFTER THIS.
TAKE IT FROM SOMEONE WHO KNOWS A LITTLE SOMETHING ABOUT SECOND CHANCES, MOSS...IT'S NEVER TOO LATE.


#MLGA
LAST WEEK, AUSTRALIA'S PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCED THAT OFFERING CITIZENSHIP TO THESE CREATURES COULD ALLEVIATE TENSIONS, AND 'ENHANCE THE COUNTRY'S STRENGTH'.
AND TODAY, I'M STANDING ON A PILE OF ASH WHERE THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE USED TO BE. GUESS THIS WASN'T THE ***CULTURAL ENRICHMENT*** HE ENVISIONED.

IMAGINE MY SHOCK: ANOTHER ATTACK, AND YOUR SAVIOUR IS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND. SHE PRATTLES ON ABOUT PROTECTING US AND EARNING OUR TRUST, BUT WHEN HER SUPPOSED 'ENEMIES' DESTROY A CITY, SHE'S CONSPICUOUSLY ***ABSENT***.

I'M SORRY, BUT THE BLAME SHOULD BE PLACED ON THE ***INDIVIDUALS*** WHO RANSACKED SYDNEY-- NOT SOME MARINE BIOLOGIST. IT'S TRUE THAT WE DON'T KNOW ASPEN'S TRUE MOTIVES, BUT WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE SHE'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE ATTACKS.

AS A GENERAL RULE I HATE TO AGREE WITH CANADIANS, BUT SHIELDED CYNIC IS RIGHT. AND WE'RE ASKING TOO MUCH OF THIS ASPEN WOMAN: HOW CAN WE EXPECT A ***SINGLE PERSON*** TO STOP AN ARMY, EVEN IF SHE IS SOME SUPER-MERMAID WHO CAN...WAIT, WHAT ARE HER POWERS, AGAIN?


SOME ARE MAKING A ***DISTINCTION*** BETWEEN ASPEN MATTHEWS AND THESE MONSTERS. WAKE UP! THERE'S NO DIFFERENCE! SHE COULD BE THEIR LEADER FOR ALL WE KNOW. THIS IS A BATTLE FOR OUR CIVILIZATION, AND OUR WAY OF LIFE-- WE CAN'T AFFORD TO TRUST ***ANYONE***, LET ALONE HER.

MARIANA TRENCH, THE WEST PACIFIC OCEAN.
IT WON'T BE LONG, NOW.
I'VE BEEN TRACKING YOUR MOVEMENTS VERY CLOSELY OVER THE LAST FEW WEEKS.
IT'S AMAZING WHAT YOU CAN LEARN ABOUT SOMEONE'S MINDSET WHEN YOU OBSERVE FROM A DISTANCE.
WOW, THAT'S NOT CREEPY AT ALL.
I SAW THE FOOTAGE FROM THE FIGHT AT THE COMIC CONVENTION. YOU DIDN'T SEEM VERY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT RECEIVING HELP FROM YOUR BOYFRIEND CHANCE.
HE GETS IN THE WAY NOW AND THEN.
AND ON THE BEACH WITH TYLER BACK ON THE ISLAND, YOU TOLD HER THAT SHE SHOULD KEEP OUT OF BLUE AFFAIRS.
THAT WAS A PERFORMANCE TO TRICK MOSS, YOU IDIOT. I WAS TRYING TO CONVINCE HIM THAT I'D TURNED ON MY FRIENDS.
FAIR ENOUGH. BUT YOU SEEMED [illegible] SINCERE.
YEAH, I DESERVE A DAYTIME EMMY. WHAT'S YOUR POINT?
MY POINT IS THAT YOU MAKE A CLEAR DISTINCTION BETWEEN HUMANS AND BLUE-- YOU REALIZE WE'RE FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT.
HUMANS AND THE BLUE BOTH WANT THE SAME THINGS OUT OF LIFE, CANNON.
YOU'VE SPENT ENOUGH TIME AROUND THEM TO KNOW THAT.
YOU SOUND LIKE THAT MANIAC VIRYDIS. WE AREN'T AT WAR WITH THE HUMANS.
THEY BOTH WANT WHAT'S IN THEIR SELF INTEREST. TO BENEFIT THEIR TRIBE.

AND YOU SOUND LIKE SIPHON.
SIPHON WANTS PEACE, AND HE TRUSTS THAT EVERYONE ELSE WANTS THE SAME.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY HE *SHOULDN'T* BE LEADING. HE CAN'T SEE THE BIG PICTURE, THAT THIS BATTLE WAS ALWAYS INEVITABLE.
HE DOESN'T REALIZE THAT... OH, BY THE WAY, YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO TAKE A RIGHT AT THE NEXT COLUMN... HE DOESN'T REALIZE THAT IN THE END, HIS PHILOSOPHY IS GOING TO GET EVERY LAST BLUE KILLED.
OH, WE'RE TAKING PHILOSOPHY, NOW? LOGIC AND REASON? THIS COMING FROM THE GUY WHO UNLEASHED A TYPHOS ARMY TO ATTACK HUMAN CITIES FOR THE SAKE OF CAUSING CHAOS. I KNOW YOU, CANNON. YOU'RE BRILLIANT. YOU'RE UP TO SOMETHING ELSE.
I WAS CAUGHT RED-HANDED. NOT MUCH MORE TO SAY.
HOW DOES THIS PLAY OUT FOR YOU, NOW? YOU'LL BE BANISHED FROM THE BLUE COLLECTIVE, AND THE HUMANS SURE AS HELL WON'T WELCOME YOU BACK WITH HUGS AND A BASKETFULL OF MUFFINS.
I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO FIND SOMETHING ELSE TO DO WITH MY LIFE. EMBRACE SOLITUDE.
WHY DO I SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE THE FROG WHO AGREES TO GIVE THE SCORPION A LIFT ACROSS THE RIVER.
I HAVE A BINDING STATEMENT FROM SIPHON HIMSELF. WHEN THIS MISSION IS OVER, I'M FREE. BETRAYING HIM NULLIFIES IT.

I'M PRETTY SURE THE SCORPION FED THE FROG A SIMILAR LINE RIGHT BEFORE HE STUNG HIM AND DROWNED THEM BOTH. I'M PARAPHRASING A LITTLE, BUT--
WHAT WAS THAT? WHAT DID YOU DO?
RUMBLE
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING
WHAT THE--
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, CANNON?!
I ASSURE YOU, THIS ISN'T ME. IT'S THE TYPHOS DEFENSE SYSTEM.
WITHOUT ANYONE AROUND TO STAND GUARD OVER THE FAILSAFE, THEY'RE NOT JUST GOING TO LEAVE THEIR FRONT DOOR UNLOCKED.
IF THIS THING HAS AN EJECT BUTTON, NOW MIGHT BE A GOOD TIME TO USE IT...

CRRRUUNNNCH
FWOOOOOSH
GHHAAAAH!
THANK YOU FOR NOT LEAVING ME BEHIND. YOU DIDN'T NEED TO PROTECT ME BACK THERE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT JUST HAPPENED, BUT IF WE SURVIVE THIS TRIP REMIND ME TO KILL YOU. SLOWLY. AND WITH VERY DULL OBJECTS.
C-CANNON... *UNGH*...D-DO SOMETHING...

FWOOOOOOM!
I GUESS THAT MAKES US EVEN.
NOT EVEN REMOTELY.
SO HOW DOES THIS WORK? DO WE JUST REACH OUT AND TOUCH IT?
AT PRECISELY THE SAME TIME. THE DEVICE WILL INSTANTLY REGISTER OUR D.N.A. AND BEGIN THE PROCESS. WE'LL DO IT ON THREE.
ONE, TWO...

THERE. ARE THE TYPHOS ALL DEAD NOW? DID THAT INJECT THEM WITH THE POISON?
ONE LAST STEP. THERE'S A CODE.
A CODE? WELL PUNCH IT IN! HUMAN LIVES ARE BEING LOST EVERY MINUTE WE STAND HERE.
ON ONE CONDITION.
YOU BASTARD...
OPEN A SPHERE AND GIVE THE COUNCIL A MESSAGE. I ENTER THE CODE THE MOMENT THEY DESTROY THE EMBLEM.
THE EMBLEM OF MURIA? THE SYMBOL THAT HAS STOOD AS THE COUNCIL'S CREST FOR MILLENNIA? WITHOUT IT, THE BLUE HAVE NO LEADERSHIP. NO LAWS. NO SENSE OF ORDER.
YOU REALLY HAVE LOST YOUR MIND. THEY'LL NEVER DO IT.
THEN SYDNEY FALLS. AND TOKYO. AND SEATTLE. AND SAN DIEGO. AND ON AND ON IT GOES. THE DAMAGE BETWEEN THE RACES WILL BE IRREPARABLE.
I'VE SPOKEN WITH LEADERS IN WASHINGTON, AND THEIR COUNTER-STRIKE PROTOCOLS ARE ALREADY IN PLACE IN CASE OF THIS EVENT.
IF WE DON'T ACTIVATE THE FAILSAFE, MURIA IS GROUND ZERO FOR THE FIRST UNDERWATER NUCLEAR ATTACK.
To be continued...

BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
VOL. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#7
OF 8
COVER A
aspencomics.com

aspen comics
Vol. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#7
OF 8
COVER B
aspencomics.com

PREVIOUSLY IN:

Chance dealt with the legal repercussions of his daring rescue of Aspen, Tyler and Matilda aboard RJ Moss' yacht. However, Moss' personal army of lawyers were unable stop the truth of his treacherous involvement with The Typhos coming to light. Meanwhile, Cannon forced Aspen to trigger the failsafe device yet with one caveat—destroy the Emblem of Muria or risk World War 3 beginning with a nuclear attack on the capitol city under the surface...

ASPEN COMICS PRESENTS

All New Fathom

PART 7 of 8

Blake Northcott
writer

Marco Renna
pencils

Mark Roslan
digital inks

John Starr
colors

Zen
letters

Vince Hernandez, Gabe Carrasco -editors

Mark Roslan, Peter Steigerwald, Gabe Carrasco - design & production

Direct Edition
MARCO RENNA
JOHN STARR

Direct Edition
GIUSEPPE CAFARO
JOHN STARR

Retailer Incentive Edition
MARCO RENNA
JOHN STARR

Fan Expo Canada
2017 Exclusive
Limited Edition of 200
by
MARCUS TO
& PETER STEIGERWALD

FATHOM CREATED BY MICHAEL TURNER

FOR ASPEN: Founder: MICHAEL TURNER Co-Owner: PETER STEIGERWALD Co-Owner/President: FRANK MASTROMAURO
Vice President/Editor in Chief: VINCE HERNANDEZ Vice President/Design and Production: MARK ROSLAN Editor: GABE CARRASCO
Office Manager: MEGAN MADRIGAL Production Assistant: JUSTICE AspenStore.com: CHRIS RUPP

ALL NEW MICHAEL TURNER'S FATHOM™ Vol. 6 Issue 7 AUGUST 2017. DIGITAL COPY.

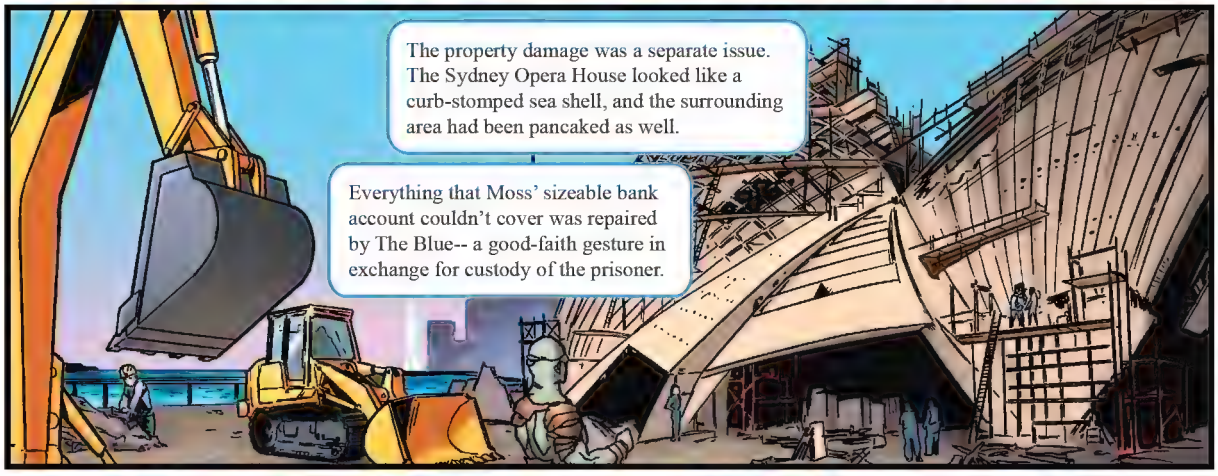
Published by Aspen MLT, Inc., Office of Publication: 5701 W. Slauson Ave. Suite. 120, Culver City, CA 90230. The Aspen MLT, Inc. logo® is a registered trademark of Aspen MLT, Inc. All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ and the All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ logo, are the trademarks of Aspen MLT, Inc. Comic-Con and the Comic-Con logo are registered trademarks of San Diego Comic Convention. The entire contents of this book, all artwork, characters and their likenesses are © 2017 Aspen MLT, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Any similarities between names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with persons living or dead or institutions is unintended and is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this book may be reprinted, reproduced or transmitted by any means or in any form without the express written consent of Aspen MLT, Inc.

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.ASPENCOMICS.COM FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT FACEBOOK.COM/ASPENCOMICS FOLLOW US ON TWITTER AT TWITTER.COM/ASPENCOMICS FOR MORE ASPEN COMICS GO TO WWW.ASPENSTORE.COM

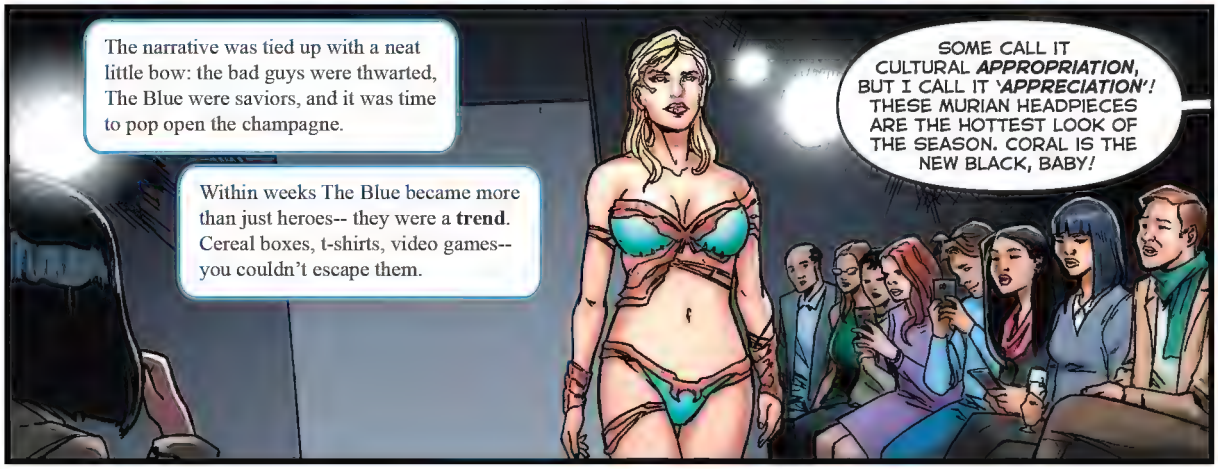
FOR THE COMICS RETAILER NEAREST YOU CALL: 1888-COMIC-BOOK » INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS REPRESENTATIVE: KELLY MASTROMAURO (PUBLISHING@ASPENCOMICS.COM)

In the days following a crisis, human behavior is predictable. We hug, we cry, we come together. Candles are typically involved, as well as ribbons-- lots and lots of ribbons.
And everything is topped off with a feel-good hashtag.
HUNDREDS OF THESE CREATURES, WHICH HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS PART OF AN UNDERSEA RACE KNOWN AS ***THE TYPHOS***, SUDDENLY DROPPED DEAD...
Once people are relatively secure that the crisis is in the rearview, and that their candle-lighting and ribbon-wearing and hashtagging have done their job, they start to ask questions.

Who was the mastermind behind this nefarious plot? **Riley J. Moss**, according to the esteemed fourth estate. He was arrested, and his assets were seized.
Then, in an unprecedented move, he was shipped off to the undersea city of Muria to face justice for his crimes.

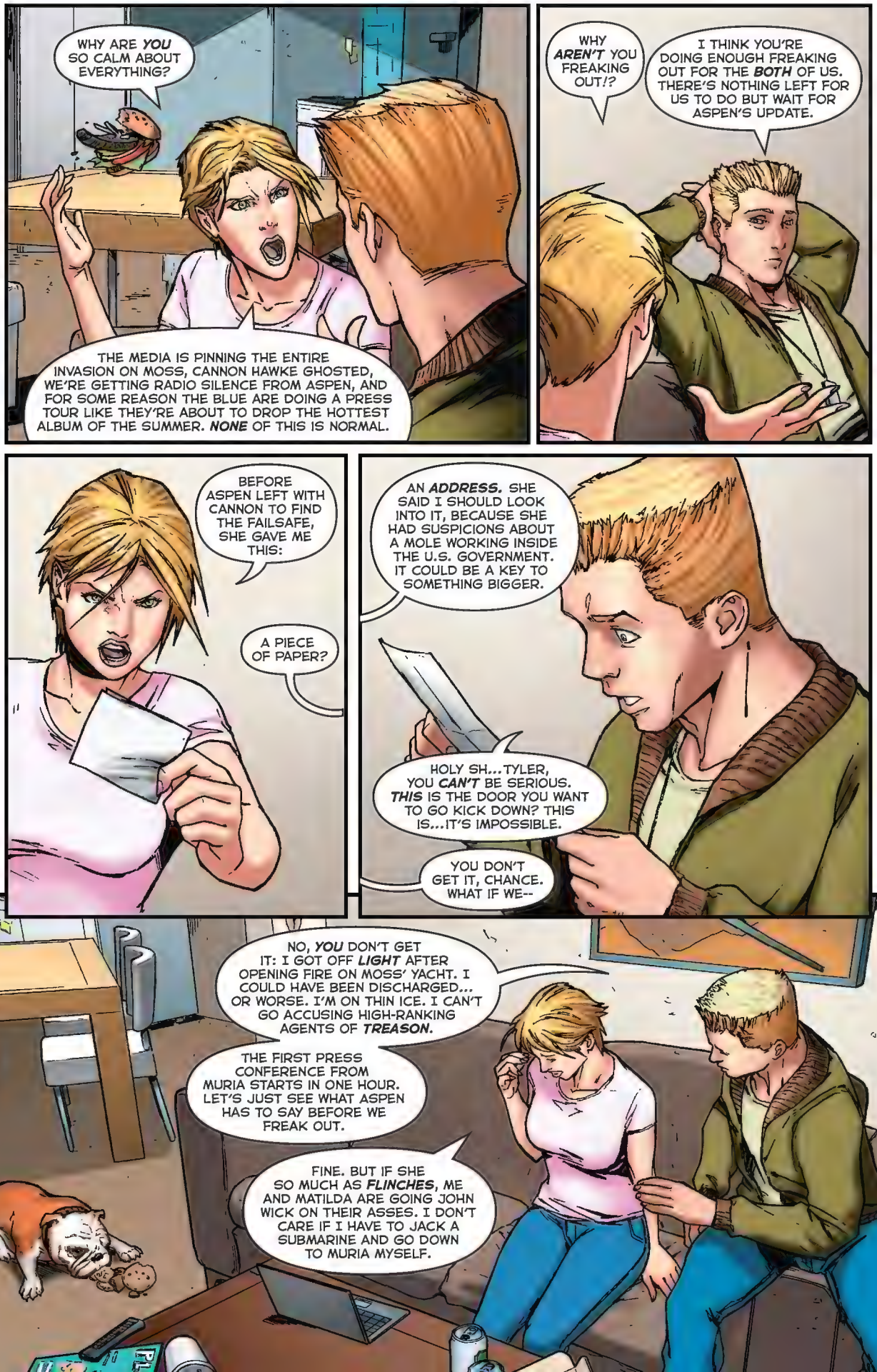

The property damage was a separate issue. The Sydney Opera House looked like a curb-stomped sea shell, and the surrounding area had been pancaked as well.
Everything that Moss' sizeable bank account couldn't cover was repaired by The Blue-- a good-faith gesture in exchange for custody of the prisoner.

Relations between humans and The Blue had never been better, but now-- for the first time-- their treaty was **public.**
The weeks that followed were filled with smiles and handshakes, and The Blue's PR machine rolled along with the subtle grace of a bulldozer.
THIS IS A *YUUUGE* WIN FOR THE ADMINISTRATION, AND FOR OUR FRIENDS IN THE PACIFIC.


The narrative was tied up with a neat little bow: the bad guys were thwarted, The Blue were saviors, and it was time to pop open the champagne.
Within weeks The Blue became more than just heroes-- they were a **trend**. Cereal boxes, t-shirts, video games-- you couldn't escape them.
SOME CALL IT CULTURAL *APPROPRIATION*, BUT I CALL IT '*APPRECIATION*'! THESE MURIAN HEADPIECES ARE THE HOTTEST LOOK OF THE SEASON. CORAL IS THE NEW BLACK, BABY!

Of course there was opposition--there always is. But the counter arguments didn't last long.
WE NEED TO BE INCLUSIVE AND WELCOMING, BUT WE CAN'T IGNORE THE FACT THAT THESE CREATURES CAUSED BILLIONS IN DAMAGE, AND KILLED DOZENS OF PEOPLE. THE MEDIA SEEMED SUSPICIOUSLY QUICK TO FORGIVE AND FORGET.
AND ARE THERE MORE ON THE WAY? IS THE THREAT REALLY CONTAINED? AND...
SORRY, @LACEY_RED, YOUR CONTENT HAS BEEN DELETED
Dear @Lacey_Red,
YooToob has found you in violation of our new 'friendliness and happiness' policy. Anything that may be deemed upsetting to anyone can be removed for any reason. Sorry!
Keep on Toobin'…
The YouToob Staff
And while not everyone was on board with our new aquatic neighbors, things appeared peaceful. That's the thing about appearances, though: they can be deceiving. As calm and orderly as the world might look, you never know what's lurking just beneath the surface.
HEAD'S UP, TYLER, BURGERS ARE INCOMING! EXTRA BACON, EXTRA PICKLES, JUST THE WAY YOU LIKE IT.
THANKS, CHANCE. I'M DYING OVER HERE.

HOW IS THE NOVEL GOING?
SLOW AND ANNOYING. I DON'T DRINK NEARLY ENOUGH TO BE AN AUTHOR.
EVERYTHING OKAY WITH YOU? I'M SORRY ABOUT THE PLACE-- I KNOW I HAVEN'T CLEANED IT SINCE...WELL, EVER.
NO, THE APARTMENT IS FINE. THANKS FOR LETTING ME CRASH.
IT'S JUST THAT I'VE BEEN WATCHING THE NEWS AND THINGS ***AREN'T*** ADDING UP. DO YOU EVER GET THE FEELING THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT A POTEMKIN VILLAGE?
YOU MEAN THAT NEIGHBORHOOD DOWNTOWN WITH ALL THE FLOWER GARDENS AND REALLY WELL DRESSED MEN?
Enjoy Blue
Blue
NO, I MEAN A ***FAÇADE***. EVERYTHING WE'VE HEARD ABOUT MURIA AND THE BLUE OVER THE LAST MONTH IS ***GOOD*** NEWS-- ALL THE REPORTS ARE CHOCK FULL OF KITTENS AND RAINBOW SANDWICHES.
IT'S LIKE THE TYPHOS WERE ALL ***TAKEN OUT***, AND SUDDENLY IT'S PARADISE HERE ***AND*** UNDER THE SEA.
YEAH, IT'S SUSPICIOUS, I SUPPOSE...BUT ASPEN SAID SHE'D TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING. SHE NEEDS A COUPLE WEEKS TO HELP RESTRUCTURE THEIR GOVERNMENT, WHATEVER THAT MEANS.
AND YOU BELIEVE HER.
IF I DIDN'T, SHE WOULDN'T BE MY GIRL.
NEITHER OF US HAVE HEARD FROM HER IN ALMOST A MONTH!
WHAT ABOUT THE ***DISTRESS SIGNAL*** SHE SENT YOU BEFORE-- HAS SHE SENT YOU A NEW ONE?
MAYBE SHE'S IN TROUBLE AGAIN AND JUST CAN'T TELL YOU?
WHAT'S WITH YOU? THE TYPHOS ARE DEAD, MOSS IS IN BLUE CUSTODY-- WHY CAN'T YOU JUST ACCEPT THAT EVERYTHING IS GOING SMOOTHLY?

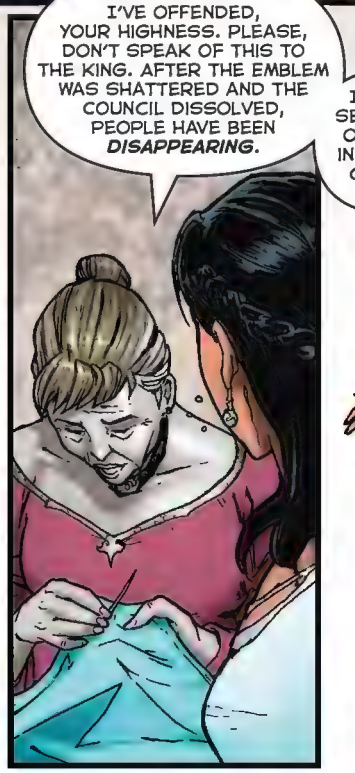

WHY ARE YOU SO CALM ABOUT EVERYTHING?
THE MEDIA IS PINNING THE ENTIRE INVASION ON MOSS, CANNON HAWKE GHOSTED, WE'RE GETTING RADIO SILENCE FROM ASPEN, AND FOR SOME REASON THE BLUE ARE DOING A PRESS TOUR LIKE THEY'RE ABOUT TO DROP THE HOTTEST ALBUM OF THE SUMMER. NONE OF THIS IS NORMAL.
WHY AREN'T YOU FREAKING OUT!?
I THINK YOU'RE DOING ENOUGH FREAKING OUT FOR THE BOTH OF US. THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR US TO DO BUT WAIT FOR ASPEN'S UPDATE.
BEFORE ASPEN LEFT WITH CANNON TO FIND THE FAILSAFE, SHE GAVE ME THIS:
A PIECE OF PAPER?
AN ADDRESS. SHE SAID I SHOULD LOOK INTO IT, BECAUSE SHE HAD SUSPICIONS ABOUT A MOLE WORKING INSIDE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. IT COULD BE A KEY TO SOMETHING BIGGER.
HOLY SH...TYLER, YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS. THIS IS THE DOOR YOU WANT TO GO KICK DOWN? THIS IS...IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
YOU DON'T GET IT, CHANCE. WHAT IF WE--
NO, YOU DON'T GET IT: I GOT OFF LIGHT AFTER OPENING FIRE ON MOSS' YACHT. I COULD HAVE BEEN DISCHARGED... OR WORSE. I'M ON THIN ICE. I CAN'T GO ACCUSING HIGH-RANKING AGENTS OF TREASON.
THE FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE FROM MURIA STARTS IN ONE HOUR. LET'S JUST SEE WHAT ASPEN HAS TO SAY BEFORE WE FREAK OUT.
FINE. BUT IF SHE SO MUCH AS FLINCHES, ME AND MATILDA ARE GOING JOHN WICK ON THEIR ASSES. I DON'T CARE IF I HAVE TO JACK A SUBMARINE AND GO DOWN TO MURIA MYSELF.

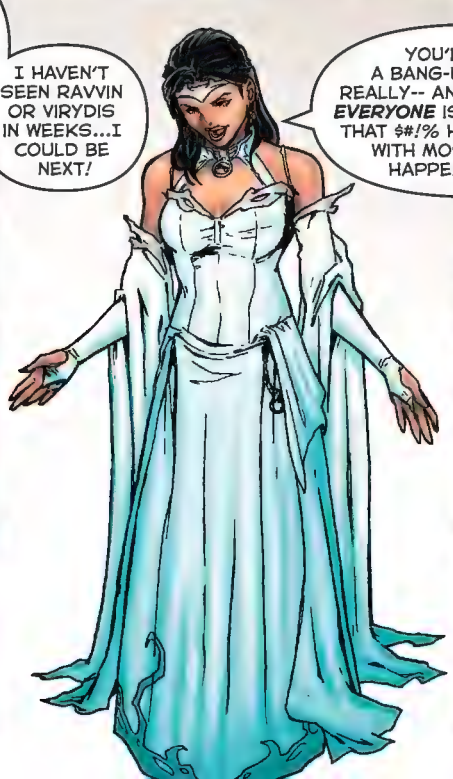
MURIA, CAPITAL CITY OF THE BLUE.
CANNON, YOU BASTARD! YOU SAID SYDNEY WAS OFF-LIMITS!
RELAX, R.J.-- THE CASUALTIES WERE MINIMAL. GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES YOU SHOULD JUST BE THANKFUL YOU'RE FREE.
'FREE'? THEY TOOK ***EVERYTHING!*** I WAS THE WEALTHIEST BLOKE IN THE EASTERN HEMISPHERE, AND NOW I'M BANKRUPT ***AND*** A PARIAH! THE ONLY THING I'M FREE OF IS A BLOODY PRISON CELL.
NOTWITHSTANDING YOUR TARNISHED REPUTATION AND DEPLETED BANK ACCOUNTS, I THINK WE'VE MADE THE MOST OF THIS DISASTER. PLAN B WORKED PERFECTLY, AND NO ONE ON THE SURFACE KNOWS ABOUT THE CHANGES TO MURIA'S LEADERSHIP.
ABOUT THAT: IT'S BEEN WEEKS AND THOSE TWITS IN THE MEDIA HAVEN'T SAID A ***WORD*** ABOUT YOU-- AS FAR AS THEY KNOW ***I'M*** THE ONE WHO RELEASED THE TYPHOS!
YOU DIDN'T TELL THEM ***OTHERWISE***, DID YOU?
OF COURSE NOT! ONCE I GOT WORD THAT YOU'D BRING ME TO MURIA I YANKED MY PLEA DEAL OFF THE TABLE. I FIGURED IF MY LIFE WAS OVER, AT THE VERY LEAST I'D HAVE SOMEWHERE SAFE TO CALL HOME.
ABOUT THAT... NOW THAT THE COUNCIL HAS BEEN DISSOLVED AND I'M IN CHARGE, ***SECURITY*** IS MY CHIEF CONCERN. CITIZENS OF MURIA WON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH SOMEONE OF YOUR REPUTATION WALKING AMONG THEM.
THAT'S BRILLIANT. YOU'RE GOING TO LOCK ME UP JUST TO PROVE A POINT. YOU MIGHT AS WELL-- I'VE GOT NOTHING ELSE TO LOSE.
OH, I THINK WE CAN COME TO A LOGICAL MIDDLE-GROUND SOMEWHERE BETWEEN TOTAL FREEDOM AND INCARCERATION. I'M NOTHING IF NOT FAIR.
NOTHING SEEMS FAIR FROM WHERE I'M STANDING, MATE.

APPEARANCES ARE A MATTER OF *PERSPECTIVE*. LOOK DOWN THERE, FOR EXAMPLE. WHAT DO YOU SEE?
EYES...AND TENTACLES.
THAT'S WHERE YOU AND I DIFFER. BECAUSE WHEN I LOOK INTO THE DARKNESS, I SEE A CHANCE AT *REDEMPTION*.
THIS IS R.J. MOSS, THE ARCHITECT OF THE TYPHOS' RELEASE. LET IT BE KNOWN THROUGHOUT MURIA THAT I AM ABOUT TO PASS JUDGMENT ON THE HUMAN WHO RECKLESSLY ENDANGERED *ALL* OF YOUR LIVES.
WHAT ARE YOU--?
WAIT, TH-THAT'S NOT TRUE! *YOU* WERE THE ONE WHO--
SILENCE. THERE IS NO LONGER A COUNCIL, AND THIS IS NOT A TRIAL.
LET THIS BE A LESSON: CHALLENGE THE THRONE, AND SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES. I AM A COMPASSIONATE AND MERCIFUL LEADER, WHICH IS WHY THIS WILL BE QUICK...AND RELATIVELY PAINLESS.
B-B-BUT THIS IS CRAZY, MATE! I DESERVE TO HAVE MY STORY HEARD!
THIS IS NOT A DEMOCRACY. THIS IS THE *NEW MURIA*.

DID YOU... DID YOU JUST SEE THAT?
ALL PART OF THE NEW REGIME, YOUR HIGHNESS.

PLEASE DON'T CALL ME THAT. AND I MEAN, I'M NOT PART OF THE R.J. MOSS FAN CLUB, BUT HE DIDN'T DESERVE...WHATEVER THAT WAS.
DO YOU PREFER PRINCESS? DUCHESS? EMPRESS? WAIT, WHAT IS YOUR OFFICIAL TITLE, IF YOU DON'T MIND MY ASKING?
I DON'T HAVE ONE!

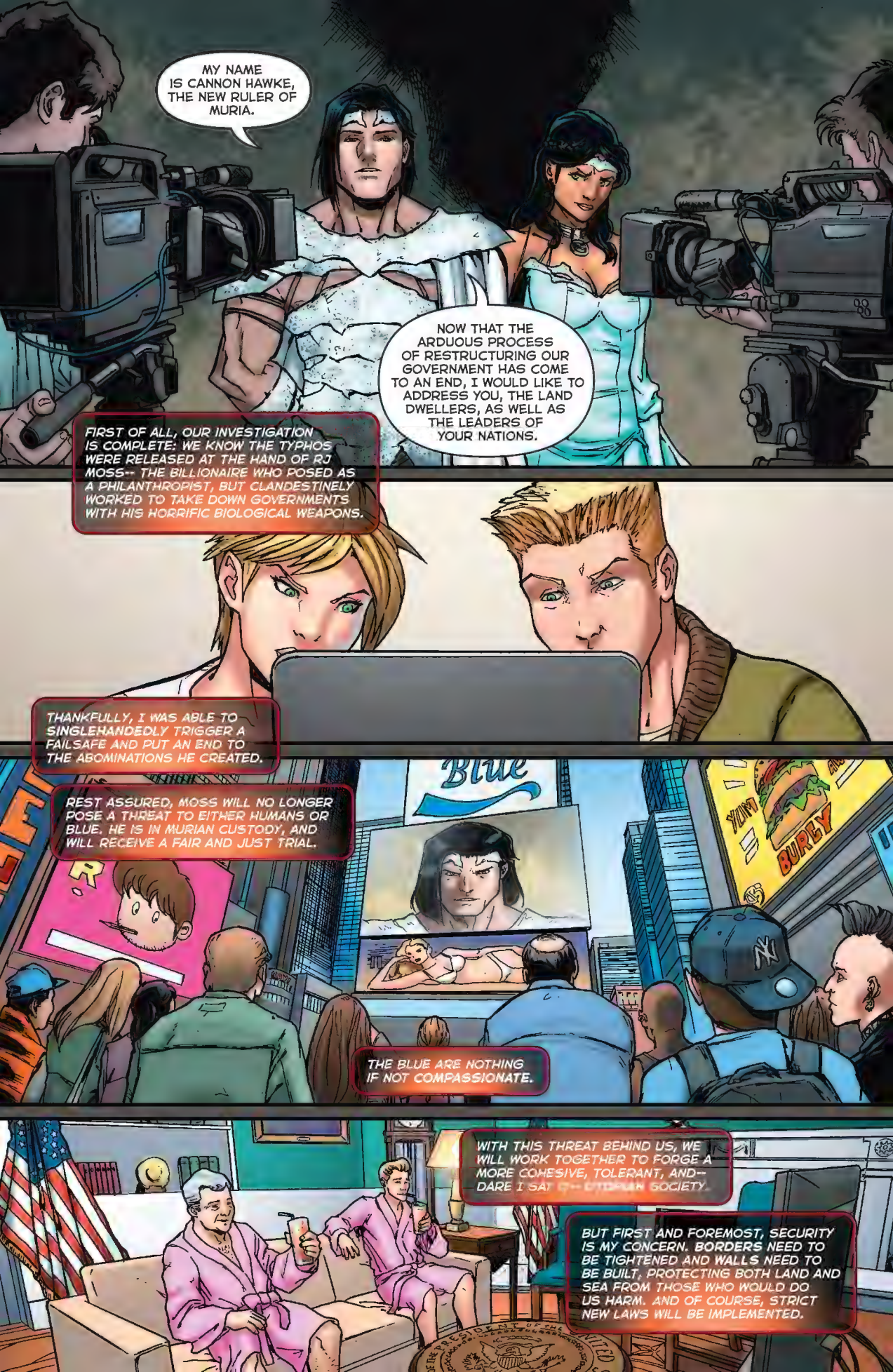

I'M SORRY IF I'VE OFFENDED, YOUR HIGHNESS. PLEASE, DON'T SPEAK OF THIS TO THE KING. AFTER THE EMBLEM WAS SHATTERED AND THE COUNCIL DISSOLVED, PEOPLE HAVE BEEN ***DISAPPEARING***.

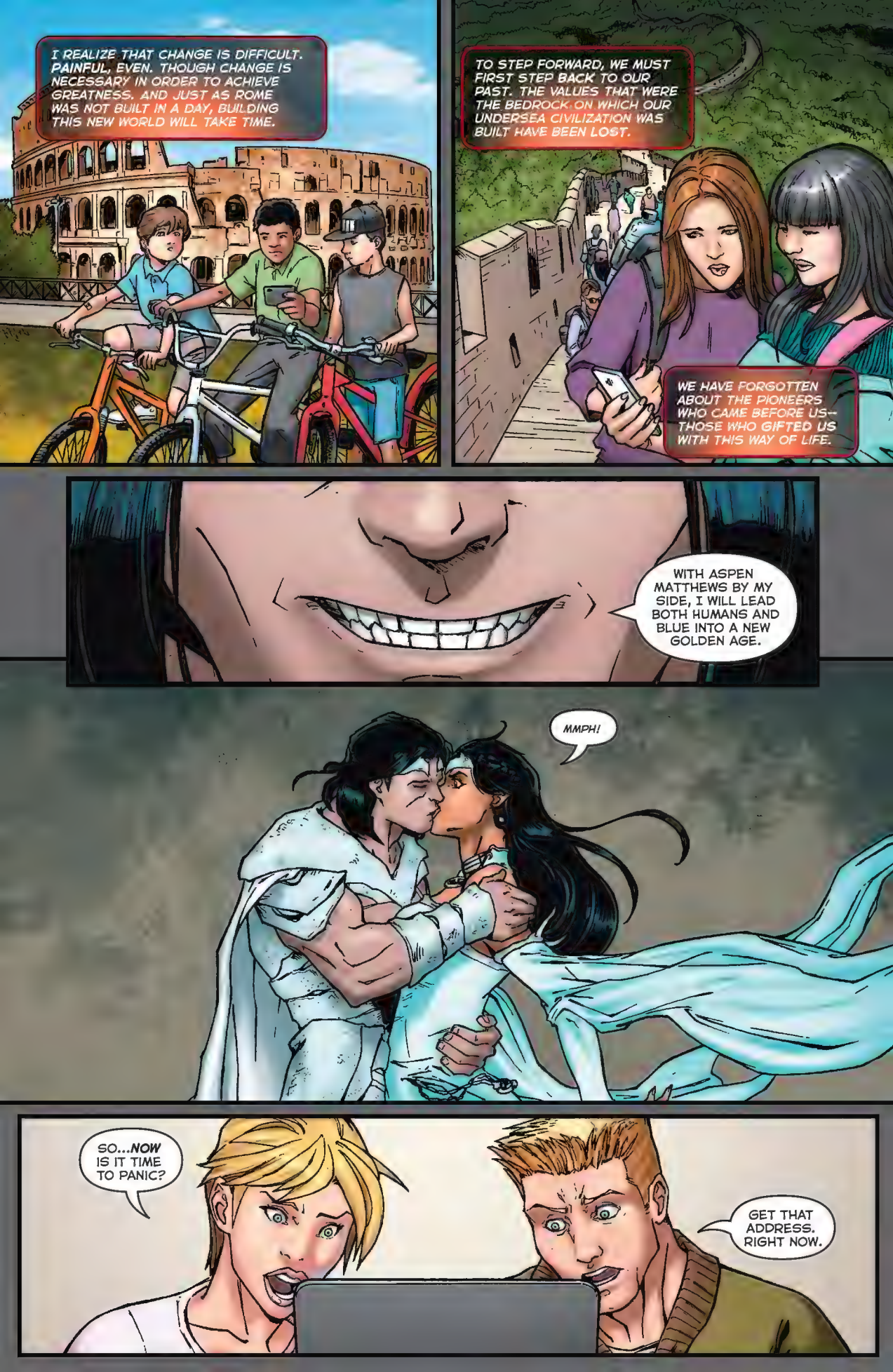

I HAVEN'T SEEN RAVVIN OR VIRYDIS IN WEEKS...I COULD BE NEXT!
YOU'RE DOING A BANG-UP JOB HERE, REALLY-- AND DON'T WORRY, ***EVERYONE*** IS SAFE IN MURIA. THAT $#!% HE JUST PULLED WITH MOSS WON'T BE HAPPENING AGAIN.

NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I NEED TO HAVE A WORD WITH 'THE KING'.
I'LL HAVE YOUR NEW DRESS READY IN TIME FOR THE CORONATION, YOUR HIGHNESS!
AND PLEASE, TELL KING HAWKE THAT YOU'RE HAPPY WITH MY WORK!

THE PILOT PROJECT IS GOING ***WONDERFULLY.*** WE'VE BLOCKED THE ENTIRE PACIFIC. ANY SEA VESSELS ATTEMPTING TO CROSS BETWEEN THE CONTINENTS WILL BE ELIMINATED.
BEFORE LONG, THESE METAL CANS FILLED WITH TOXIC SLUDGE WILL NO LONGER BE POLLUTING OUR WATERWAYS.
EXCELLENT. AND THE HUMAN MEDIA?
THANKS TO MOSS' TECHNOLOGY AND OUR LINKS WITHIN THE N.S.A., ANY SATELLITE IMAGERY OF THE DISAPPEARANCES WILL BE ***DELETED.***
AND REPORTERS LOOKING INTO THE MISSING VESSELS WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF, AS PER YOUR INSTRUCTIONS.
WHAT THE #$@% DID YOU DO, CANNON?! WHAT WAS THAT STUNT WITH MOSS?
AH, MY BLUSHING BRIDE-TO-BE. ELOQUENT AND VIVACIOUS AS EVER.
THAT WILL BE ALL, MAGNYS-- IT SEEMS ASPEN AND I HAVE A FEW ***ISSUES*** TO DISCUSS.
AND WHAT WAS THAT PERFORMANCE I JUST SAW YOU BROADCAST TO THE ENTIRE BLUE COLLECTIVE? YOU'RE CLAIMING THAT ***MOSS*** WAS THE ONE WHO RELEASED THE TYPHOS? AND THAT ***YOU*** SINGLE-HANDEDLY DESTROYED THEM?
NOT TO LET THE TRUTH GET IN THE WAY OF A GOOD STORY, BUT YOU ORCHESTRATED THIS FROM THE BEGINNING.
THAT'S YOUR OPINION.
YOU CAN'T KEEP BENDING REALITY TO YOUR WHIM.
NO, THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG, MY DEAR: REALITY IS WHAT I ***SAY*** IT IS. IT'S WHAT I PUT OUT INTO THE WORLD WITH MY AQUASPHERES. WHEN YOU CONTROL THE FLOW OF INFORMATION, YOU CONTROL PERCEPTION.

YOU CAN'T JUST ERASE WHAT HAPPENED IN SYDNEY! HOW YOU UNLEASHED THE TYPHOS, BLACKMAILED US, AND DESTROYED THE COUNCIL WITH THE THREAT OF NUCLEAR WAR! THAT HAPPENED, CANNON.
YOU THINK ANY OF THAT MATTERS? LOOK AT THE SURFACE-- THE HUMAN LEADERS FOCUS ONLY ON THE EVENTS THAT FIT THEIR NARRATIVES, DISCARDING ALL THAT DOESN'T FIT.
IT'S A CONTINUAL RESTRUCTURING OF HUMAN HISTORY, DELETING WHAT'S INCONVENIENT AND EMBELLISHING WHATEVER PUSHES THEIR AGENDA.
YOOTOOB HAS EVEN FALLEN IN LINE. THEY'RE SCRUBBING ANY ANTI-BLUE SENTIMENTS, AND MANIPULATING THE SEARCH RESULTS AT OUR WHIM. THE REST OF THE MEDIA ARE COMPLYING AS WELL.
SO THIS IS THE PLAN: RE-STRUCTURING EVERYTHING AT YOUR WHIM?
NOT AT MY WHIM-- THE ORIGINAL BLUE DOCTRINES WRITTEN A MILLENNIUM AGO ARE VERY PLAIN: TWO LEADERS, ONE MALE, ONE FEMALE, REIGNING OVER MURIA UNTIL THEIR PASSING. THIS IS THE NEW WORLD, DEAR.
MY LORD, THE HUMAN MEDIA HAVE ARRIVED. THEY'RE PREPARED FOR YOUR STATEMENT.
EXCELLENT, LET THEM PASS. AND REMEMBER, NO AQUASPHERES ARE TO BE ACTIVATED. THIS BROADCAST IS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION ONLY.
AND I EXPECT YOU'LL BE ON YOUR BEST BEHAVIOR...BECAUSE YOUR FRIENDS ON THE SURFACE ARE ONE CALL AWAY FROM BEING GUTTED LIKE FISH.


MY NAME IS CANNON HAWKE, THE NEW RULER OF MURIA.
NOW THAT THE ARDUOUS PROCESS OF RESTRUCTURING OUR GOVERNMENT HAS COME TO AN END, I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS YOU, THE LAND DWELLERS, AS WELL AS THE LEADERS OF YOUR NATIONS.
FIRST OF ALL, OUR INVESTIGATION IS COMPLETE: WE KNOW THE TYPHOS WERE RELEASED AT THE HAND OF RJ MOSS-- THE BILLIONAIRE WHO POSED AS A PHILANTHROPIST, BUT CLANDESTINELY WORKED TO TAKE DOWN GOVERNMENTS WITH HIS HORRIFIC BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS.
THANKFULLY, I WAS ABLE TO SINGLEHANDEDLY TRIGGER A FAILSAFE AND PUT AN END TO THE ABOMINATIONS HE CREATED.
REST ASSURED, MOSS WILL NO LONGER POSE A THREAT TO EITHER HUMANS OR BLUE. HE IS IN MURIAN CUSTODY, AND WILL RECEIVE A FAIR AND JUST TRIAL.
Blue
THE BLUE ARE NOTHING IF NOT COMPASSIONATE.
WITH THIS THREAT BEHIND US, WE WILL WORK TOGETHER TO FORGE A MORE COHESIVE, TOLERANT, AND-- DARE I SAY [illegible] SOCIETY.
BUT FIRST AND FOREMOST, SECURITY IS MY CONCERN. BORDERS NEED TO BE TIGHTENED AND WALLS NEED TO BE BUILT, PROTECTING BOTH LAND AND SEA FROM THOSE WHO WOULD DO US HARM. AND OF COURSE, STRICT NEW LAWS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED.


I REALIZE THAT CHANGE IS DIFFICULT. PAINFUL, EVEN. THOUGH CHANGE IS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE GREATNESS. AND JUST AS ROME WAS NOT BUILT IN A DAY, BUILDING THIS NEW WORLD WILL TAKE TIME.
TO STEP FORWARD, WE MUST FIRST STEP BACK TO OUR PAST. THE VALUES THAT WERE THE BEDROCK ON WHICH OUR UNDERSEA CIVILIZATION WAS BUILT HAVE BEEN LOST.
WE HAVE FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE PIONEERS WHO CAME BEFORE US-- THOSE WHO GIFTED US WITH THIS WAY OF LIFE.
WITH ASPEN MATTHEWS BY MY SIDE, I WILL LEAD BOTH HUMANS AND BLUE INTO A NEW GOLDEN AGE.
MMPH!
SO...NOW IS IT TIME TO PANIC?
GET THAT ADDRESS. RIGHT NOW.

THANK YOU FOR COMING. MY GUARDS WILL ESCORT YOU TO THE DOCKING BAY WHERE I WILL ARRANGE FOR TRANSPORTATION BACK TO THE SURFACE. YOU'VE DONE A GREAT SERVICE HERE TODAY.
ANYTHING I CAN HELP YOU WITH?
YEAH, A SCALDING HOT BATH AND SOME STEEL WOOL WOULD BE A NICE START. WHAT THE HELL WAS *THAT* ABOUT?
OH, ENOUGH WITH THE *THEATRICS*, ASPEN. THIS IS ALL PART OF THE OPTICS I'M PRESENTING TO THE SURFACE:
POWER COUPLES PROJECT STABILITY, THEY INSPIRE *CONFIDENCE*. WE NEED TO ENSURE THE HUMANS THAT WE HAVE THINGS UNDER CONTROL.
CONTROL IS AN *ILLUSION*, YOU EGOMANIAC! YOU THINK YOU CAN MAINTAIN THIS CHARADE? THAT NO ONE WILL KNOW WHAT YOU'RE REALLY UP TO?
I DON'T THINK-- I *KNOW*. I'VE SPENT YEARS PLANNING THIS OUT AND NOW IT'S A REALITY, RIGHT DOWN TO THE LAST DETAIL. RIGHT DOWN TO *YOU*, AT MY SIDE, *SUBSERVIENT*.

YOUR OBEDIENCE IS THE CURRENCY THAT PAYS FOR YOUR FRIENDS' EXISTENCE. NEVER FORGET THAT.
AND DON'T THINK I CAN'T SEE THAT DEFIANCE IN YOUR EYES...DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT TRYING TO WARN THEM. NOTHING COMES OR GOES FROM MURIA WITHOUT MY BLESSING--NOT TRANSPORTS, NOT COMMUNICATIONS.
THEY'LL COME THROUGH. THEY ALWAYS DO.
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA.
THANK YOU, I THINK YESTERDAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE FROM MURIA WAS A HIT--MASSIVE APPROVAL RATINGS.
NO, NO FURTHER COMMENT AT THIS TIME. I'LL LET MISTER HAWKE HASH THAT OUT WITH THE PRESIDENT WHEN THEY MEET NEXT WEEK.
NOK NOK
SOMEONE IS HERE, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO GET BACK TO YOU.

NOK-NOK-NOK
DELIVERY FOR A MISS AKIKO NIGATA!
HOW DID YOU GET UP HERE? DID ARGYLE AT THE FRONT DESK LET YOU UP, BECAUSE I DIDN'T GET A CALL...
KRR-KOOM!
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW LONG I'VE BEEN WAITING TO DO THIS!
THOK!
GRRRRRR...
STOP, PLEASE! I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING, JUST DON'T HURT ME!
HUH, THAT WAS EASIER THAN I THOUGHT. WE WEREN'T EVEN COMPLETELY SURE YOU WERE THE MOLE.
YEAH, I'M GLAD WE DIDN'T HAVE TO TORTURE YOU BECAUSE PUNCHING PEOPLE HURTS LIKE A #@$%. DO YOU HAVE AN ICE PACK? MAYBE A BAG OF FROZEN PEAS?

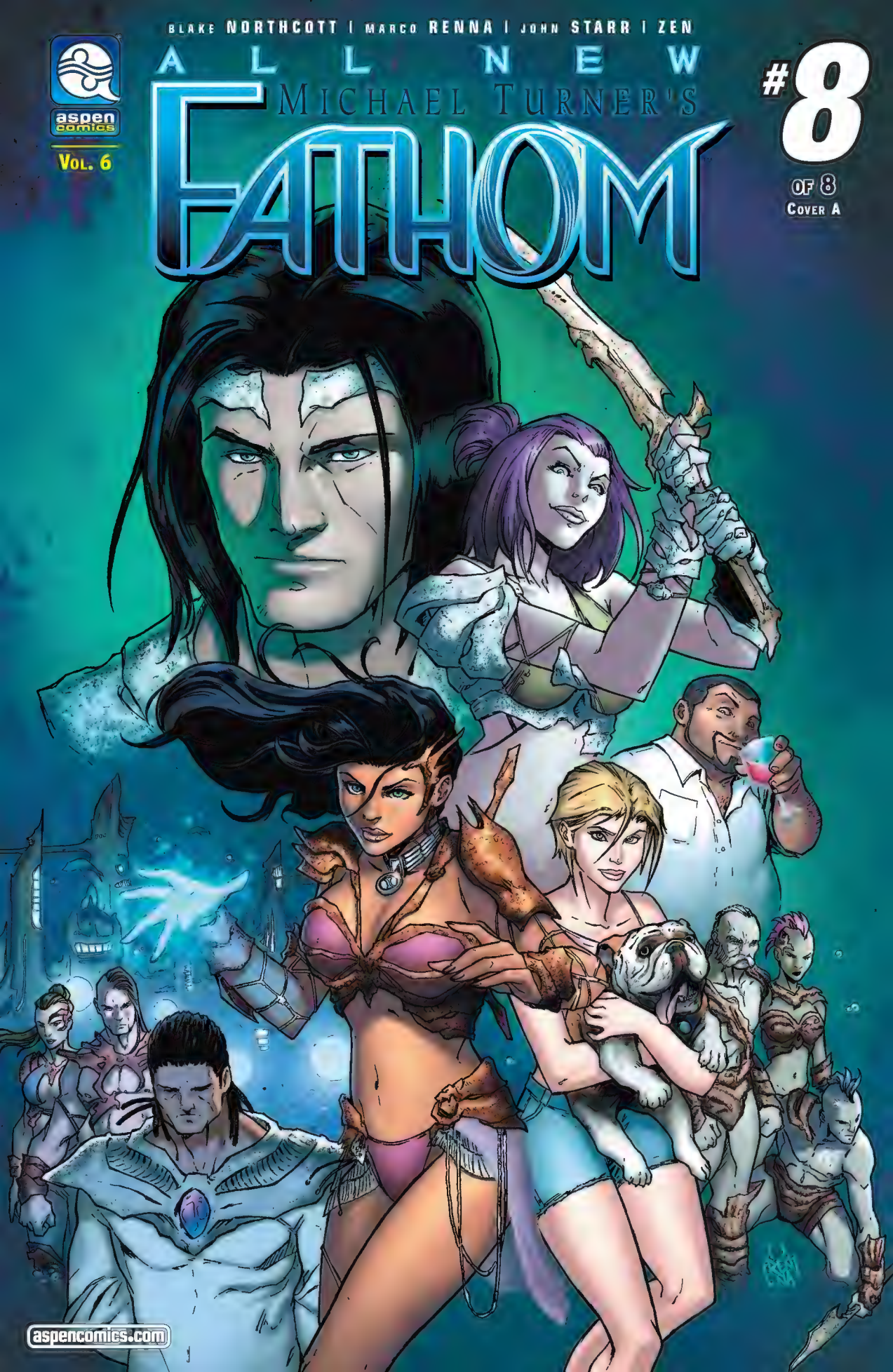
I'M THINKING THAT WE CLEAR OUT THIS ENTIRE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND REPLACE IT WITH A DAIS. MAYBE MATCHING THRONES THAT CAN GO RIGHT ABOUT THERE.
EXCELLENT CHOICE, MY LORD.
WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS, ASPEN? ANY PREFERENCES?
I'M THINKING YOUR THRONE WOULD GO WELL AT THE BOTTOM OF THE HINROTH PIT, RIGHT NEXT TO R.J. MOSS.
MY PATIENCE IS NOT INFINITE. YOU'VE HAD TIME TO ADJUST, AND NOW YOU NEED TO FALL IN LINE.
FALL IN LINE? WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, CANNON? YOU USED TO BE--
WEAK. I USED TO BE A SNIVELING, POWERLESS DOORMAT, STOMPED ON BY THE SO-CALLED LEADERS OF MURIA. NOW THAT I'M RUNNING THINGS AS I SEE FIT, I'M NOT GOING TO BE TALKED DOWN TO BY ANYONE, LEAST OF ALL YOU.
CANNON! I DEMAND AN AUDIENCE!
I DEMAND THAT YOU SPEAK WITH ME AT ONCE! YOU CANNOT KEEP AVOIDING ME, AND YOU CANNOT USE THE GUARDS OF THIS CITY TO KEEP ME AT BAY.
AH, SPEAK OF THE DEVIL.

THIS IS A ROYAL CHAMBER NOW, SIPHON. SINCE YOU'RE APPARENTLY GETTING SENILE IN YOUR OLD AGE, I'LL SPELL IT OUT FOR YOU SO YOU'LL UNDERSTAND: THAT MEANS IT'S FOR ROYALTY, NOT SUBJECTS.
THIS IS PREPOSTEROUS! I HAVE A RIGHT TO SPEAK MY MIND! TO BROADCAST MY VOICE THROUGH THE AQUASPHERE NETWORK!
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT RIGHTS, NOW? THAT'S RICH, COMING FROM A MAN WHO RAN A DEMOCRATIC COUNCIL LIKE A DICTATORSHIP. YOU'RE LUCKY I DON'T THROW YOU IN CRYOSTASIS FOR TREASON-- THE ONLY REASON I HAVEN'T IS BECAUSE THE IDIOTS THAT INHABIT THIS CITY STILL HAVE A MODICUM OF RESPECT FOR YOU, WHICH BOGGLES THE MIND.
ASPEN, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN REASONABLE-- PLEASE TALK SOME SENSE INTO THIS LUNATIC.
WHAT DID YOU CALL ME? WAS THAT A NEGATIVE, DISPARAGING REMARK THAT ESCAPED YOUR LIPS?
YOU'RE NO KING, CANNON. WE ONLY AGREED TO DESTROY THE EMBLEM OF MURIA UNDER DURESS. ALL OF MURIA WAS AT RISK.
PRECISELY: YOU ACQUIESCED, I TOOK ADVANTAGE. IT'S CALLED 'POLITICS'. READ A BOOK SOMETIME.
YOU WON'T SURVIVE THIS.
GUARDS! THIS MAN HAS THREATENED YOUR KING. BRING HIM TO ME.
I INVOKE THE SCROLLS OF AR'RET, MURIA'S ORIGINAL SACRED DOCTRINES HANDED DOWN FROM THE ANCIENT ONES THEMSELVES.
THE WHAT? THOSE SCROLLS ARE BARBARIC FAIRY TALES, WRITTEN BACK WHEN MOST OF THE WORLD WAS ILLITERATE AND THOUGHT THE EARTH WAS FLAT! YOU'RE GOING TO USE THEM TO MAKE POLICIES NOW?
CHOOSE YOUR WORDS CAREFULLY, ASPEN. HERESY WILL SOON RESULT IN SEVERE PUNISHMENTS, AND EVEN THE FUTURE QUEEN WON'T BE IMMUNE.

ACTIVATE THE AQUASPHERES! I WANT THE ENTIRE KINGDOM TO WITNESS THIS MOMENT. A LEGEND IS ABOUT TO BE BORN, AND ANOTHER IS ABOUT TO BE STRUCK DOWN.
YOU'RE ALREADY KING, CANNON! WHAT ELSE IS LEFT TO PROVE?
DOMINANCE. FEAR IS RESPECT, AND THIS OLD MAN HAS NEITHER. IF ANYONE IS STILL LOYAL TO HIM, THEY'LL SOON SEE HIM EXPOSED AS THE FRAUD THAT HE IS.
I WISH I'D THOUGHT OF THIS EARLIER.
AS KING, I HAVE THE OPTION TO CHOOSE A CHAMPION TO FIGHT IN MY STEAD. I NEED NO SUCH LUXURY. I WILL BATTLE SIPHON, HERE AND NOW.
TO PROVE MY RESOLVE, I WILL PUT MY ***CROWN*** ON THE LINE. AND LIKE ALL DECREES MADE THROUGH THE AQUASPHERES, THIS IS A ***BINDING*** STATEMENT.
THE SCROLLS DICTATE THAT YOU HAVE ONE OF THREE OPTIONS: ACCEPT, FACE BANISHMENT, OR HAVE A CHAMPION TAKE YOUR PLACE-- EITHER BY YOUR CHOOSING OR BY VOLUNTEER.
I WON'T ABANDON MY PEOPLE. AND I WILL NOT ASK ANOTHER TO FIGHT MY BATTLES FOR ME.
I WAS HOPING YOU'D SAY THAT.
LET'S GIVE THEM A SHOW, OLD MAN.

HNNG!
YOU SOUND A LITTLE *TIRED*, SIPHON. AT YOUR AGE I DON'T BLAME YOU.
MAYBE A LITTLE PICK-ME-UP WILL HELP WITH YOUR PERFORMANCE ISSUES.
THNG
WH...WHAT DID YOU DO TO ME?
WHAT'S WRONG, FEARLESS LEADER? JOINTS AREN'T AS PLIABLE AS THEY USED TO BE?
KERRACK
IS THE WORLD TIPPING OFF ITS AXIS?
CHOK

JUST ONE DROP OF THAT VENOMOUS CONCOCTION YOU USED TO SPIKE THE TYPHOS WITH HAS THAT EFFECT. NOT LETHAL, BUT IT'S ENOUGH TO TRIGGER A HELL OF A MIGRAINE.
YOU'VE HAD THIS COMING FOR A LONG TIME, YOU BOTTOM-FEEDING TRENCH DWELLER. SOON, YOU'LL SEE ME FOR WHO I REALLY AM...
THEN YOU'LL FINALLY RESPECT ME!
ENOUGH!
NO MY DEAR, I SAY WHEN IT'S ENOUGH. THIS BATTLE OCCURS AT MY PLEASURE, AND I'VE YET TO FEEL ANY MEASURE OF SATISFACTION.
I'M NOT STOPPING THE BATTLE. I'M MAKING A REPLACEMENT. YOU SAID IT YOURSELF, LIVE FOR ALL OF MURIA TO SEE: A VOLUNTEER CAN STEP IN TO REPLACE A FIGHTER.
KAFF KAFF Y-YOU CAN'T...
IT'S ALREADY DONE. NOW, LET'S RAISE THE STAKES. CAN'T DISAPPOINT TENS OF THOUSANDS OF THE BLUE, CAN WE? IF YOU WIN, I'LL SIT THRONE-SIDE LIKE A DOTING WIFE-- NO FIGHTING, NO RESISTANCE.
I'M LIKING THE SOUND OF THIS ALREADY.
BUT WHEN I WIN, YOU RELINQUISH YOUR CROWN, JUST LIKE YOU OFFERED WHEN YOU CHALLENGED SIPHON... AND THE COUNCIL WILL BE REINSTATED.
TO BE CONTINUED...


BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
VOL. 6
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#8
OF 8
COVER A
aspencomics.com

BLAKE NORTHCOTT | MARCO RENNA | JOHN STARR | ZEN
aspen comics
ALL NEW
MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
#80
OF 8
COVER B
aspencomics.com

PREVIOUSLY IN:

In the aftermath of the Typhos' defeat, Cannon Hawke wasted little time usurping and implementing a new "Golden Age" for The Blue, with Aspen Matthews by his side. Meanwhile, Tyler and Chance paid a visit to Akiko Nigata to physically coerce her into revealing Cannon's true intentions—and Akiko quickly confessed she was the mole. However, back under the surface, Aspen decided to take advantage of the massive audience in the gladiatorial arena to challenge Cannon to combat for the fate of the citizens of Muria...

ASPEN COMICS PRESE

All New Fathom

PART 8 of 8

Blake Northcott
writer

Marco Renna
pencils

Mark Roslan
digital inks

John Starr
colors

Zen
letters

Vince Hernandez, Gabe Carrasco -editors

Mark Roslan, Peter Steigerwald, Gabe Carrasco -design & production

Direct Edition
Marco Renna
John Starr

Direct Edition
Brianne Drouhard

Retailer Incentive Edition
Marco Renna
John Starr

FATHOM CREATED BY MICHAEL TURNER

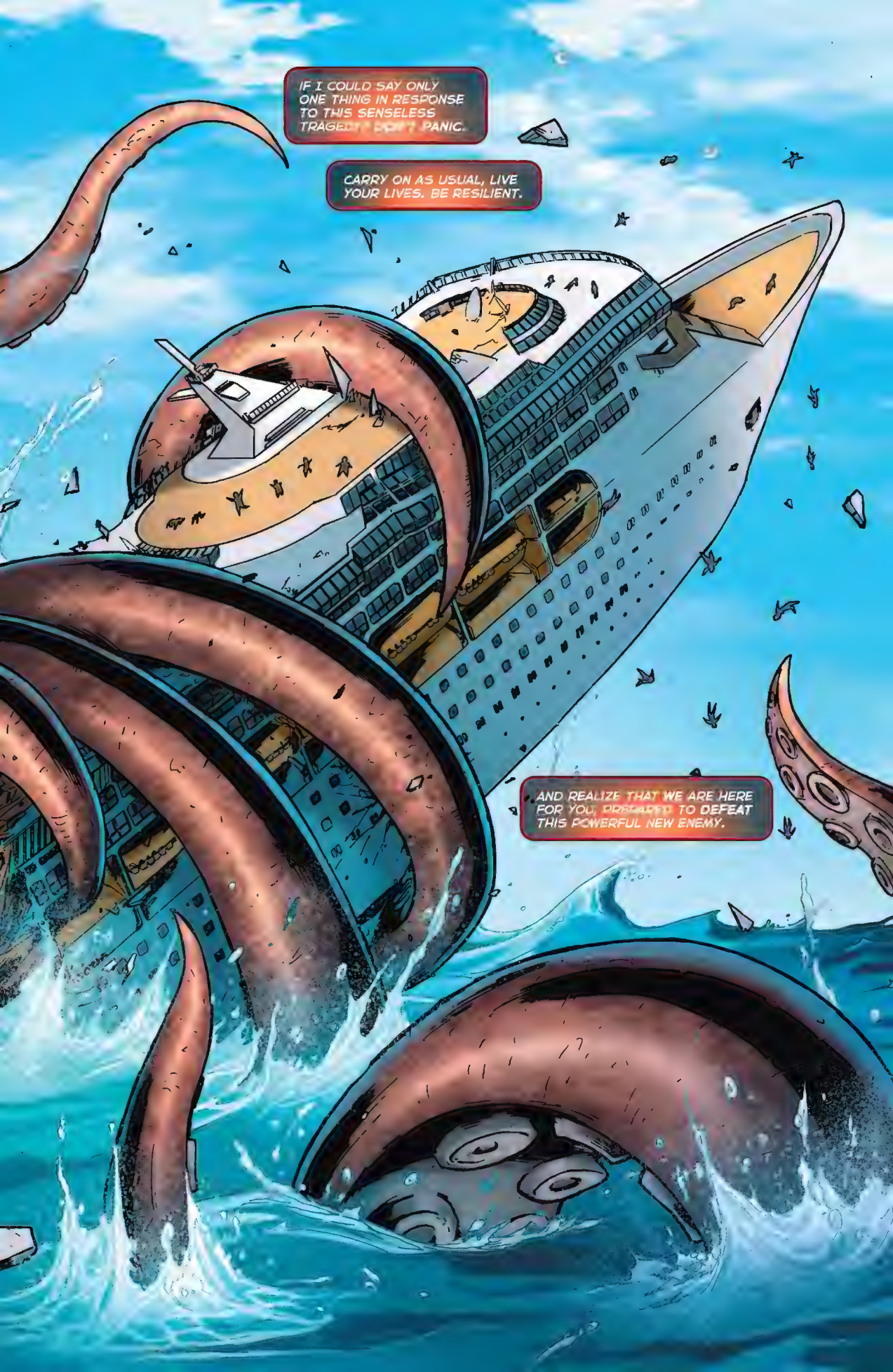
For Aspen: Founder: Michael Turner Co-Owner: Peter Steigerwald Co-Owner/President: Frank Mastromauro
Vice President/Editor in Chief: Vince Hernandez Vice President/Design and Production: Mark Roslan Editor: Gabe Carrasco
Office Manager: Megan Madrigal Production Assistant: Justice AspenStore.com: Chris Rupp

ALL NEW MICHAEL TURNER'S FATHOM™ Vol. 6 Issue 8 SEPTEMBER 2017. DIGITAL COPY.

Published by Aspen MLT, LLC., Office of Publication: 5701 W. Slauson Ave. Suite. 120, Culver City, CA 90230. The Aspen MLT, LLC. logo® is a registered trademark of Aspen MLT, LLC. All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ and the All New Michael Turner's Fathom™ logo, are the trademarks of Aspen MLT, LLC. The entire contents of this book, all artwork, characters and their likenesses are © 2017 Aspen MLT, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Any similarities between names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with persons living or dead or institutions is unintended and is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this book may be reprinted, reproduced or transmitted by any means or in any form without the express written consent of Aspen MLT, LLC.

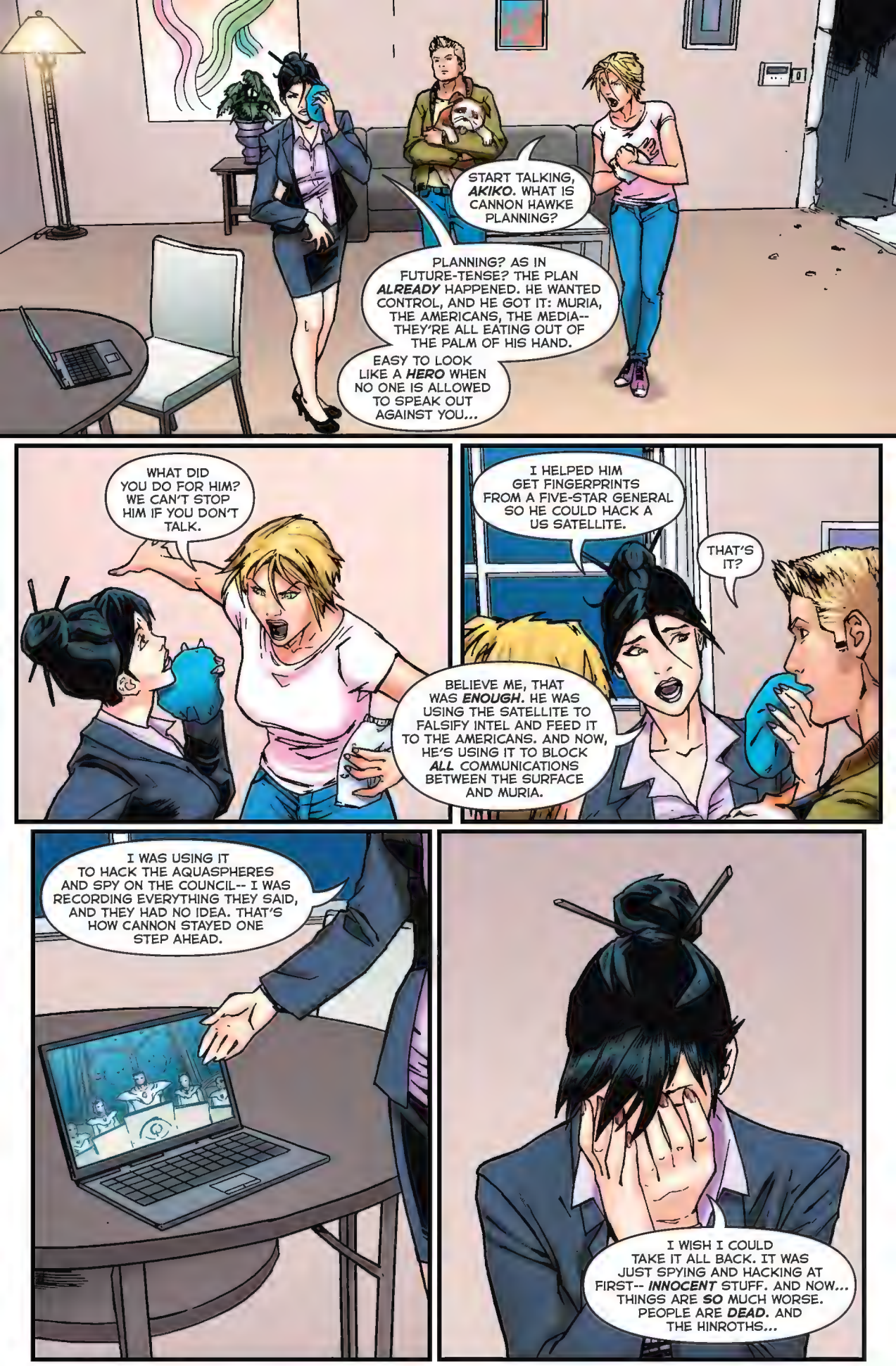
Visit us on the web at WWW.ASPENCOMICS.COM
Find us on Facebook at FACEBOOK.COM/ASPENCOMICS
Follow us on Twitter at TWITTER.COM/ASPENCOMICS
For more Aspen Comics go to WWW.ASPENSTORE.COM

For the comics retailer nearest you call: 1888-COMIC-BOOK » International rights representative: Kelly Mastromauro (publishing@aspencomics.com)


IF I COULD SAY ONLY ONE THING IN RESPONSE TO THIS SENSELESS TRAGEDY, DON'T PANIC.
CARRY ON AS USUAL, LIVE YOUR LIVES. BE RESILIENT.
AND REALIZE THAT WE ARE HERE FOR YOU, PREPARED TO DEFEAT THIS POWERFUL NEW ENEMY.

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.
'DON'T PANIC'? YOU HAVE TO ADMIT, WE'VE NEVER FACED A THREAT LIKE THIS BEFORE-- WE DON'T KNOW WHERE THESE CREATURES CAME FROM, OR WHY THEY'RE SINKING SHIPS.
TRUE, BUT WHEN THE TYPHOS WERE RELEASED, I DEFEATED THEM. THIS NEW ENEMY IS DANGEROUS, BUT THE RESULTS WILL BE NO DIFFERENT.
AND DEFENSIVE MEASURES HAVE ALREADY BEEN PUT IN MOTION.
THE FIRST STEP WILL BE INCREASED GLOBAL SECURITY, STARTING WITH THE MEDIA.
THE SPREAD OF MISINFORMATION LEADS TO CHAOS, WHICH IS WHY I'M WORKING WITH A NUMBER OF SOCIAL MEDIA OUTLETS TO MONITOR AND DELETE OFFENDING CONTENT.
ISN'T THIS JUST A WAY TO SILENCE DISSENT? AS A JOURNALIST MYSELF, I THINK A LOT OF PEOPLE WILL HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THIS.
I UNDERSTAND YOUR TREPIDATION, BUT THESE MEASURES ARE FOR THE GREATER GOOD. IN TIMES OF CRISIS, SACRIFICES NEED TO BE MADE-- AND ALLOWING BIASED, HATEFUL RHETORIC TO BE SPREAD ONLINE WILL ONLY HINDER OUR DEFENSIVE EFFORTS.
THE MEDIA IS ONE THING, BUT HOW DO YOU ACTUALLY PLAN ON STOPPING THESE... THINGS?
WE HAVE OUR METHODS. BUT IN THE MEANTIME, I'D ADVISE THE ENTIRE HUMAN POPULATION TO STAY AWAY FROM THE OCEANS.
THERE IS NO TELLING WHEN, OR WHERE, THE NEXT ATTACK WILL BE. BUT I GUARANTEE THAT I WILL BE THERE TO STOP IT-- BECAUSE NO ONE ELSE CAN.

MURIA, CAPITAL CITY OF THE BLUE.
HOW DID I LOOK? I ASKED FOR A CLOSE UP AT THE END-- I REALLY WANTED TO DRIVE HOME THE 'LIFE OR DEATH' ASPECT.
GOOD CALL, MY LORD. VERY DRAMATIC.
ARE THE HINROTHS IN PLACE?
THEY ARE. AN OIL TANKER IN THE PERSIAN GULF WILL BE ATTACKED BY ONE OF THE CREATURES NEXT WEEK, AND YOU'LL BE THERE TO HEROICALLY DEFEAT IT.
WITH OUR CAMERA CREW READY TO CAPTURE THE ENTIRE GLORIOUS EVENT, OF COURSE.
OF COURSE. THE SATELLITE UPLINK IS IN PLACE AS WELL, JUST AS YOU'VE REQUESTED. WE'RE SECURE AND READY FOR THIS EVENING'S BROADCAST.
WELL DONE, MAGNYS. THAT WILL BE ALL.
WHAT ABOUT ASPEN...Y-YOU'RE NOT SERIOUSLY GOING TO FIGHT HER FOR CONTROL OF MURIA, ARE YOU ?
AND WHY SHOULDN'T I? YOU LACK FAITH IN YOUR KING'S ABILITIES?
N-N-NO, IT'S JUST...SHE'S POWERFUL. TOO POWERFUL, PERHAPS?
I KNOW WHAT SHE'S CAPABLE OF, WHICH IS WHY I'LL BE SETTING THE RULES FOR THE EVENT. TONIGHT, THE ENTIRE BLUE COLLECTIVE WILL FINALLY LEARN THAT ASPEN MATTHEWS IS NOTHING COMPARED TO ME.

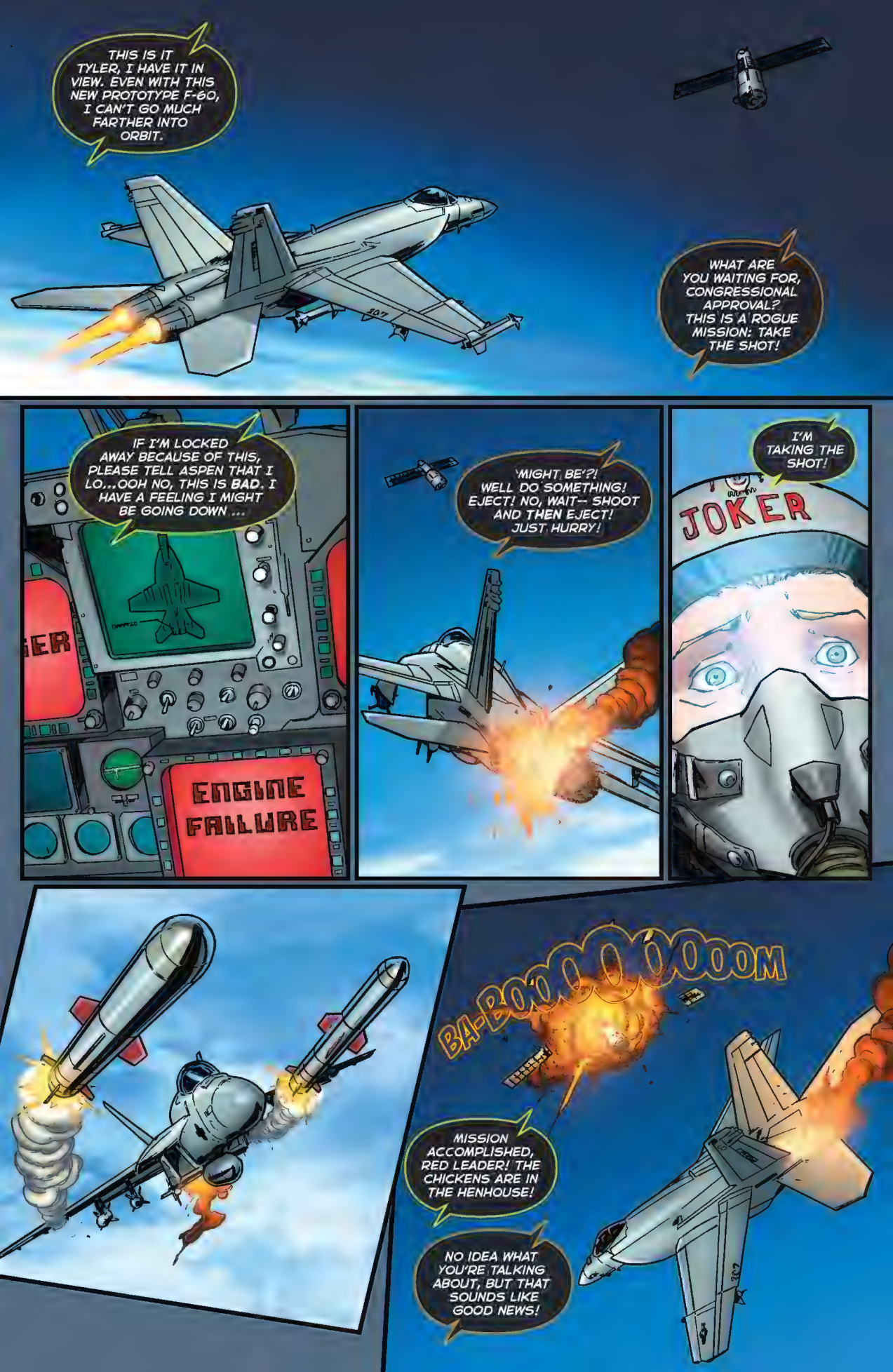

START TALKING, AKIKO. WHAT IS CANNON HAWKE PLANNING?
PLANNING? AS IN FUTURE-TENSE? THE PLAN ALREADY HAPPENED. HE WANTED CONTROL, AND HE GOT IT: MURIA, THE AMERICANS, THE MEDIA-- THEY'RE ALL EATING OUT OF THE PALM OF HIS HAND.
EASY TO LOOK LIKE A HERO WHEN NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST YOU...
WHAT DID YOU DO FOR HIM? WE CAN'T STOP HIM IF YOU DON'T TALK.
I HELPED HIM GET FINGERPRINTS FROM A FIVE-STAR GENERAL SO HE COULD HACK A US SATELLITE.
THAT'S IT?
BELIEVE ME, THAT WAS ENOUGH. HE WAS USING THE SATELLITE TO FALSIFY INTEL AND FEED IT TO THE AMERICANS. AND NOW, HE'S USING IT TO BLOCK ALL COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE SURFACE AND MURIA.
I WAS USING IT TO HACK THE AQUASPHERES AND SPY ON THE COUNCIL-- I WAS RECORDING EVERYTHING THEY SAID, AND THEY HAD NO IDEA. THAT'S HOW CANNON STAYED ONE STEP AHEAD.
I WISH I COULD TAKE IT ALL BACK. IT WAS JUST SPYING AND HACKING AT FIRST-- INNOCENT STUFF. AND NOW... THINGS ARE SO MUCH WORSE. PEOPLE ARE DEAD. AND THE HINROTHS...

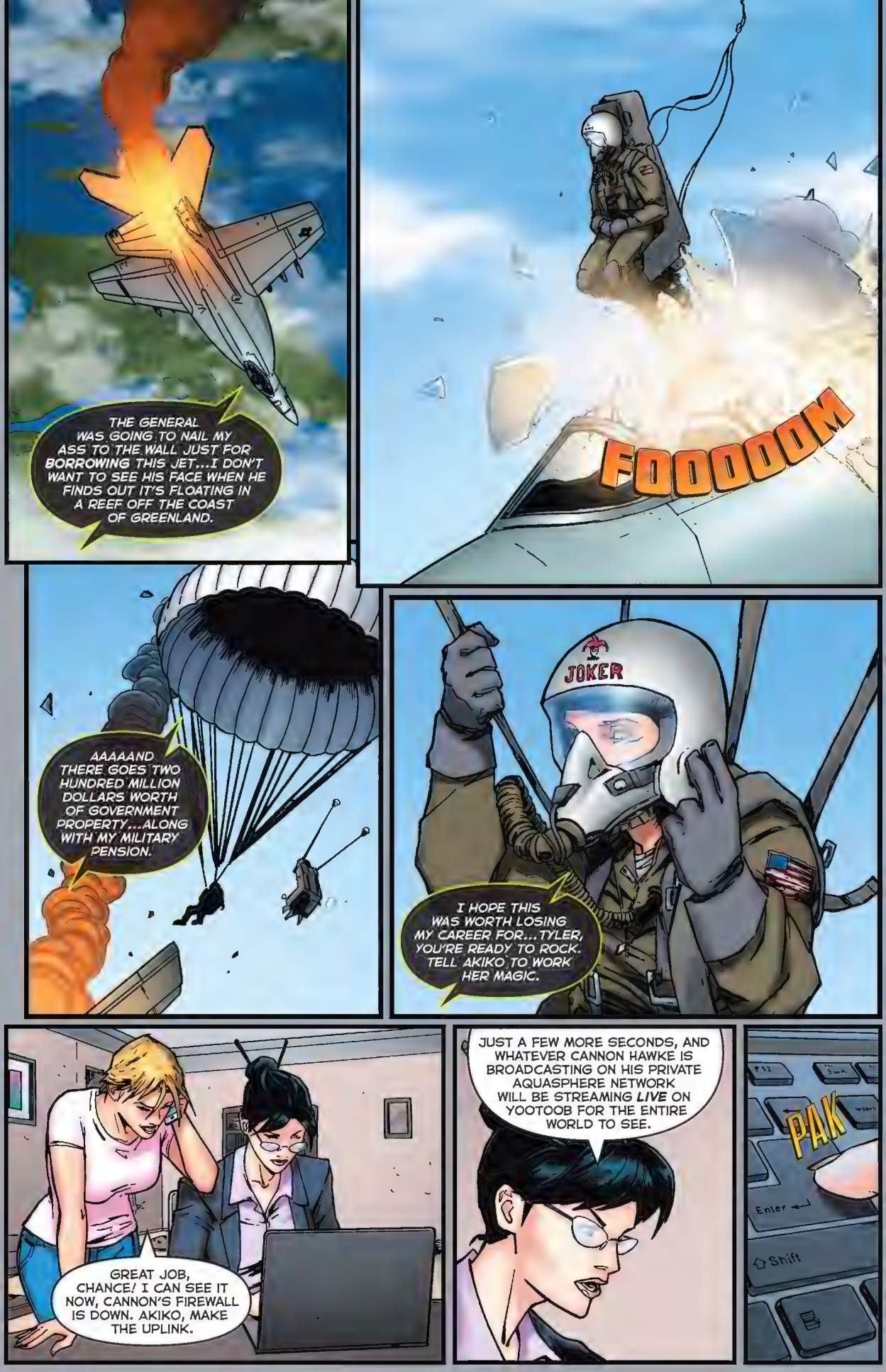
THOSE SQUID MONSTERS THAT ARE TAKING DOWN OCEAN LINERS AND CRUISE SHIPS?
THEY DIDN'T JUST APPEAR OUT OF NOWHERE-- THEY'RE ANCIENT BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS THAT'S HE'S UN-CAGING ON PURPOSE.
SO THESE ATTACKS ARE FALSE FLAGS.
EXACTLY: CANNON IS THE ARSONIST AND THE FIREMAN. HE'S GOING TO KEEP DESTROYING SHIPS AND CLAIMING HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN STOP IT.
AND HOW DOES ASPEN FIT INTO ALL THIS?
I HAVE NO IDEA, BUT CANNON IS OBSESSED WITH HER. I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM...ONE DAY HE JUST SNAPPED, LIKE HE WAS THIS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON.
ALL I KNOW IS THAT WHATEVER HE'S BROADCASTING TO THE BLUE ON THE AQUASPHERES, HE DOESN'T WANT IT GOING VIRAL.
HE MUST HAVE SOMETHING BIG PLANNED, BECAUSE HE JUST LOCKED ALL HIS ALLIES OUT OF THE SYSTEM. EVEN ME.
CAN'T YOU JUST HACK IN AND FIND OUT WHAT HE'S DOING DOWN THERE? SPY ON HIM LIKE YOU SPIED ON THE COUNCIL?
IT CAN'T BE DONE REMOTELY ANYMORE. TO DO THAT, I'D HAVE TO PHYSICALLY TAKE DOWN A SATELLITE FIRST, WHICH IS IMPOSSIBLE.
NOTHING'S IMPOSSIBLE IF YOU'RE CRAZY ENOUGH...AND HAVE A PILOT'S LICENSE.
ARE YOU GOING TO DO SOMETHING RECKLESS AND ILLEGAL?
'RECKLESS' IS A PRETTY BROAD SPECTRUM. I'LL CALL YOU IN A COUPLE HOURS...JUST BE READY TO HACK THOSE AQUASPHERES WHEN I SAY GO.

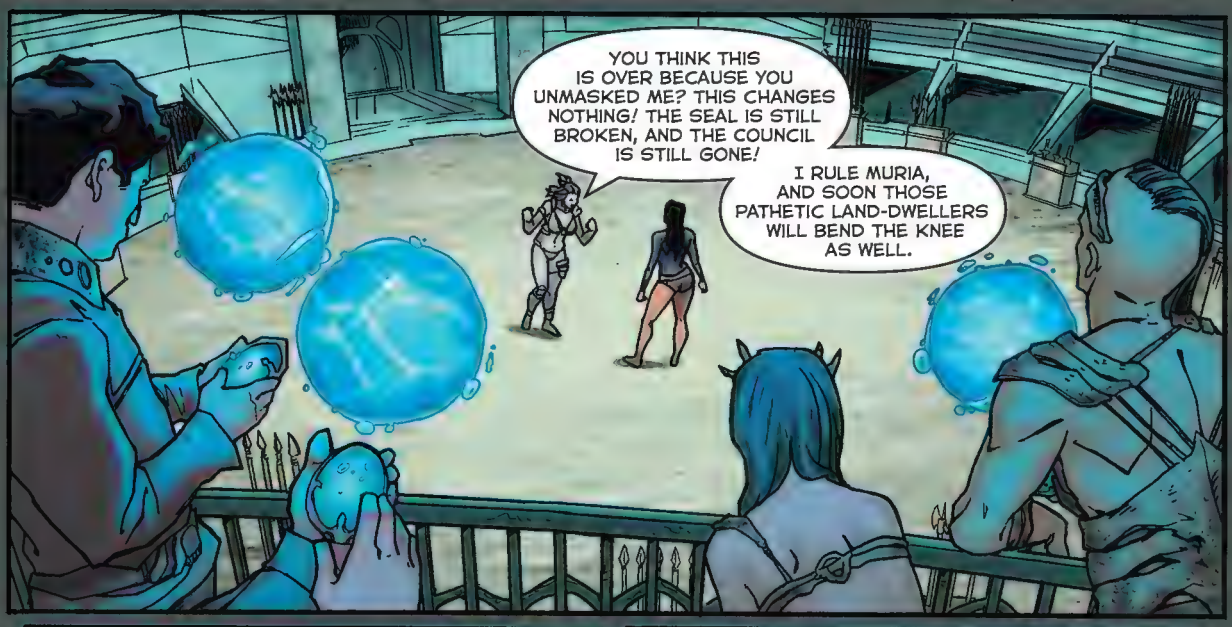
PREPARE YOURSELVES FOR AN EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT. YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS YOUR LEADER DOING WHAT SIPHON AND THE COWARDS ON THE COUNCIL NEVER DID: ***FIGHT*** FOR YOU.
AS KING, I'M SELECTING THE ***WEAPONS*** THAT WILL BE USED IN THIS CONTEST. I'M THINKING A BROADSWORD FOR MYSELF...AND FOR ASPEN, A DAGGER PERHAPS?
WHY USE WEAPONS AT ALL? IF YOU'RE SO SUPERIOR, PROVE IT IN ***UNARMED*** COMBAT-- THE WAY THINGS WERE DONE IN THE GOOD OL' DAYS YOU'RE ALWAYS REMINISCING ABOUT.
UNLESS THE ALL-MIGHTY KING IS ***AFRAID*** TO TEST HIMSELF... COULD BE HUMILIATING TO GET YOUR ASS KICKED IN FRONT OF THE ENTIRE BLUE COLLECTIVE ***AND*** LOSE YOUR KINGDOM.
I DON'T ***NEED*** WEAPONS TO DEFEAT YOU. BUT LET'S LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD.
MAGNYS, ACTIVATE THE FIELD. A MILD ***ELECTRICAL CURRENT*** WILL BE SHOT THROUGH THE ARENA. NOW, YOU'LL BE UNABLE TO CONTROL YOUR MOLECULES AND TURN TO WATER.
WITH YOUR ABILITIES DAMPENED, WE'RE BOTH FLESH AND BLOOD.
YOU SAID YOU WANTED ***EVEN***, RIGHT?
LET'S DO THIS.

THOK!
NOT SO NIMBLE WITHOUT YOUR POWERS TO FALL BACK ON, ARE YOU?
WHUMP!
CONSIDER THIS A KINDNESS-- STRANGULATION WILL BE THE MOST PAINLESS WAY OF ENDING YOUR LIFE. I WANTED YOU BY MY SIDE, BUT NOW I KNOW THAT CAN NEVER HAPPEN.
THERE'S JUST ONE THING I WANT YOU TO KNOW BEFORE YOU DIE: I'M--
GNHHHHH...
WHA--? HOW DID YOU...
LET'S SEE YOU TRY AND STRANGLE ME WITH A BROKEN ARM!
NO! LET GO OF MY BRACELET! IT'S GOING TO BR--
KRAKK

UNGHHH...
MY LORD, CANNON, WHAT... WHAT DID ASPEN *DO* TO YOU? WHY DO YOU LOOK LIKE *VYRIDIS?*
SHE HAS BEEN ABSENT SINCE YOU TOOK OVER MURIA, AND NOW YOU LOOK JUST LIKE HER. THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE! UNLESS...
I-I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. IT'S BEEN YOU, FAKING IT THIS ENTIRE TIME! WHAT DID YOU DO TO CANNON HAWKE?


THIS IS IT TYLER, I HAVE IT IN VIEW. EVEN WITH THIS NEW PROTOTYPE F-60, I CAN'T GO MUCH FARTHER INTO ORBIT.
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR, CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL? THIS IS A ROGUE MISSION: TAKE THE SHOT!
IF I'M LOCKED AWAY BECAUSE OF THIS, PLEASE TELL ASPEN THAT I LO...OOH NO, THIS IS BAD. I HAVE A FEELING I MIGHT BE GOING DOWN...
ENGINE FAILURE
MIGHT BE?! WELL DO SOMETHING! EJECT! NO, WAIT-- SHOOT AND THEN EJECT! JUST HURRY!
I'M TAKING THE SHOT!
JOKER
BA-BOOOOOOOOOM
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED, RED LEADER! THE CHICKENS ARE IN THE HENHOUSE!
NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, BUT THAT SOUNDS LIKE GOOD NEWS!


THE GENERAL WAS GOING TO NAIL MY ASS TO THE WALL JUST FOR BORROWING THIS JET...I DON'T WANT TO SEE HIS FACE WHEN HE FINDS OUT IT'S FLOATING IN A REEF OFF THE COAST OF GREENLAND.
FOOOOOM
AAAAAND THERE GOES TWO HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY...ALONG WITH MY MILITARY PENSION.
JOKER
I HOPE THIS WAS WORTH LOSING MY CAREER FOR...TYLER, YOU'RE READY TO ROCK. TELL AKIKO TO WORK HER MAGIC.
GREAT JOB, CHANCE! I CAN SEE IT NOW, CANNON'S FIREWALL IS DOWN. AKIKO, MAKE THE UPLINK.
JUST A FEW MORE SECONDS, AND WHATEVER CANNON HAWKE IS BROADCASTING ON HIS PRIVATE AQUASPHERE NETWORK WILL BE STREAMING *LIVE* ON YOOTOOB FOR THE ENTIRE WORLD TO SEE.
PAK
Enter
Shift


YOU THINK THIS IS OVER BECAUSE YOU UNMASKED ME? THIS CHANGES NOTHING! THE SEAL IS STILL BROKEN, AND THE COUNCIL IS STILL GONE!
I RULE MURIA, AND SOON THOSE PATHETIC LAND-DWELLERS WILL BEND THE KNEE AS WELL.

SO YOU GOT RID OF CANNON, USED THE TYPHOS BRACELET TO STEAL HIS IDENTITY, STAGED A COUP TO OVERTHROW MURIA...AND THEN YOU KISSED ME DURING THE...

WHOA. THERE IS A LOT I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT YOU.

NO ONE CARED ABOUT VIRYDIS, JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBER. BUT WHEN I BECAME SOMEONE ELSE, SUDDENLY I HAD RESPECT. AS CANNON, I HAD ACCESS TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, CONTROL OVER AN ARMY OF TYPHOS WARRIORS-- I HAD EVERYTHING.

AND NOW HERE YOU ARE, TRYING TO TAKE IT AWAY FROM ME-- AGAIN!

IS YOUR BRAIN HEMORRHAGING? I'VE NEVER TRIED TO TAKE ANYTHING FROM YOU! YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN THE OVERACHIEVER, AND I'VE ALWAYS BEEN--

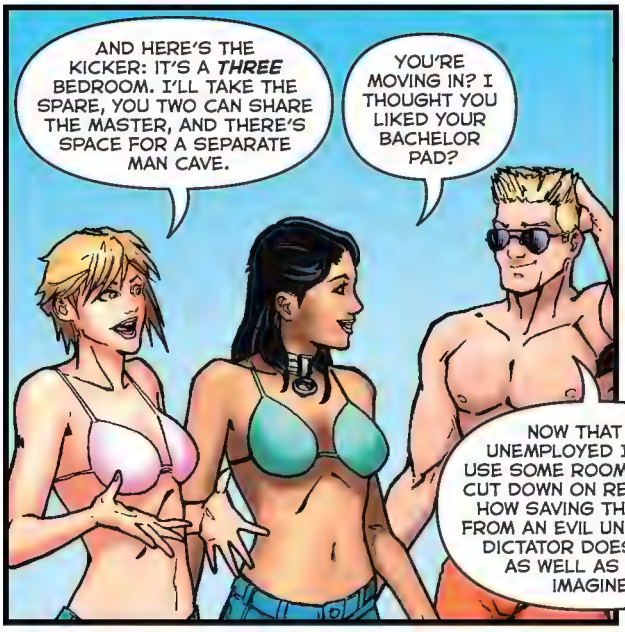
ASPEN! THAT'S WHO YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN! THE GOLDEN CHILD, THE CHOSEN ONE. AND I'VE BEEN IN YOUR SHADOW, DESPITE WORKING TWICE AS HARD!
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN THE FAVORITE, ESPECIALLY WITH THE GREAT SIPHON. NO LONGER. NOW, HE'S LOCKED IN CRYO-STASIS, ALONG WITH CANNON, AND EVERYONE ELSE WHO DEFIED ME ALONG THE WAY.
UM, CAN EVERYONE SEE THIS?
EVERYONE WITH AN INTERNET CONNECTION.
JOKER
NOW I'M CHANGING THE WORLD. MY HINROTHS ARE TAKING DOWN SHIPS IN EVERY MAJOR WATERWAY, AND I'M RIDDING THE PLANET OF THOSE FILTHY, OIL-SPEWING METAL CASKETS THAT DESECRATE MY OCEANS.
I'VE WORKED MY ASS OFF TO GET EVERYTHING I'VE EVER WANTED, AND I'M POISED TO RULE THE ENTIRE PLANET.
BUT YOU KNOW THE IRONY IN ALL THIS? I'M STILL NOT HAPPY.

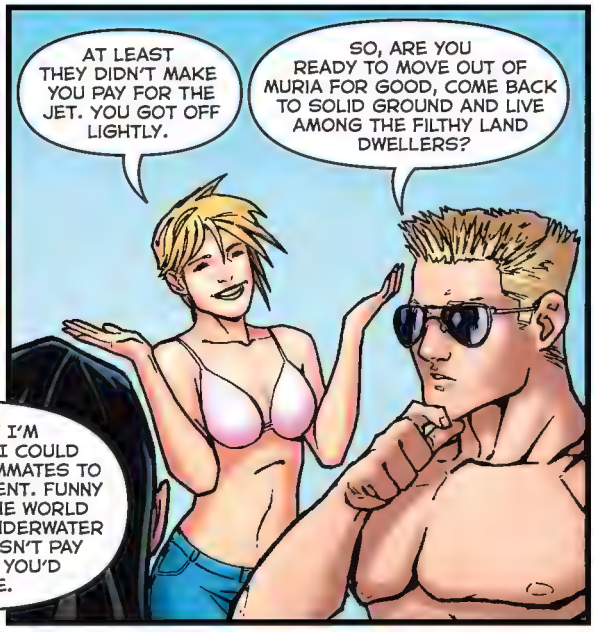
YEAH, BEING PSYCHOTIC MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THAT.
NO, I'VE FIGURED IT OUT: IT'S BECAUSE YOU EXIST. YOU POLLUTE EVERYTHING AROUND ME-- YOUR PRESENCE IS LIKE A TOXIN THAT I'M FORCED TO INHALE.
I'M SMARTER, MORE CAPABLE, AND BETTER THAN YOU IN EVERY CONCEIVABLE WAY...
SO WHY DO I WANT TO BE YOU?!
THOK!
YOU COULDN'T BE ME ON YOUR BEST DAY.
GO TO HELL!

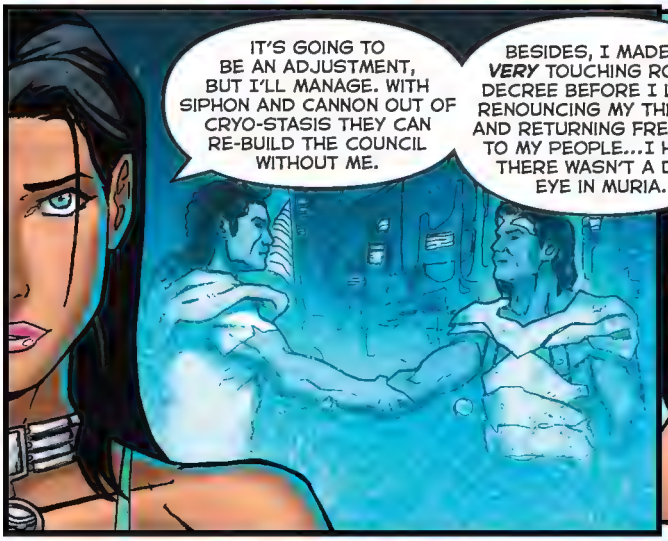
GET THE HELL OUT OF MY LIFE, ASPEN MATTHEWS! GET OUT OF MY--
GHAAAARRRRGGHHHH!
NOOO...I CAN'T LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE YOU EXIST. YOU RUIN EVERYTHING YOU TOUCH...I DESPISE YOU, ASPEN...
WHAT I THINK YOU MEANT TO SAY IS, 'I DESPISE YOU *QUEEN* ASPEN.' *I'M* RUNNING MURIA NOW.

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.
THREE DAYS LATER.
OKAY, GUESS WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SHOW YOU... NO PEEKING THOUGH! ARE YOU PEEKING? IS ONE OF YOUR SUPERPOWERS X-RAY VISION?
I HAVE NO IDEA, NO I'M NOT, AND I DON'T THINK SO.
RUFF! RUFF!

YOU GUYS! I *LOVE* IT! AND IT'S RIGHT ON THE BEACH.
WE KNOW YOU LIKE WATER, SO THIS SEEMED LIKE A GOOD FIT.
OBSERVANT, AS ALWAYS.

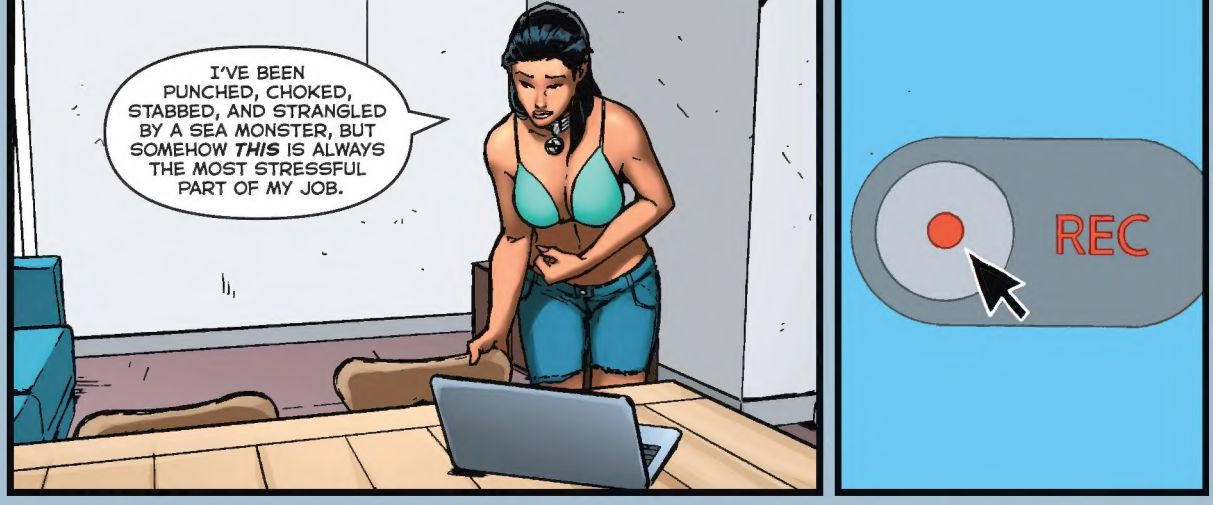

AND HERE'S THE KICKER: IT'S A *THREE* BEDROOM. I'LL TAKE THE SPARE, YOU TWO CAN SHARE THE MASTER, AND THERE'S SPACE FOR A SEPARATE MAN CAVE.
YOU'RE MOVING IN? I THOUGHT YOU LIKED YOUR BACHELOR PAD?
NOW THAT I'M UNEMPLOYED I COULD USE SOME ROOMMATES TO CUT DOWN ON RENT. FUNNY HOW SAVING THE WORLD FROM AN EVIL UNDERWATER DICTATOR DOESN'T PAY AS WELL AS YOU'D IMAGINE.

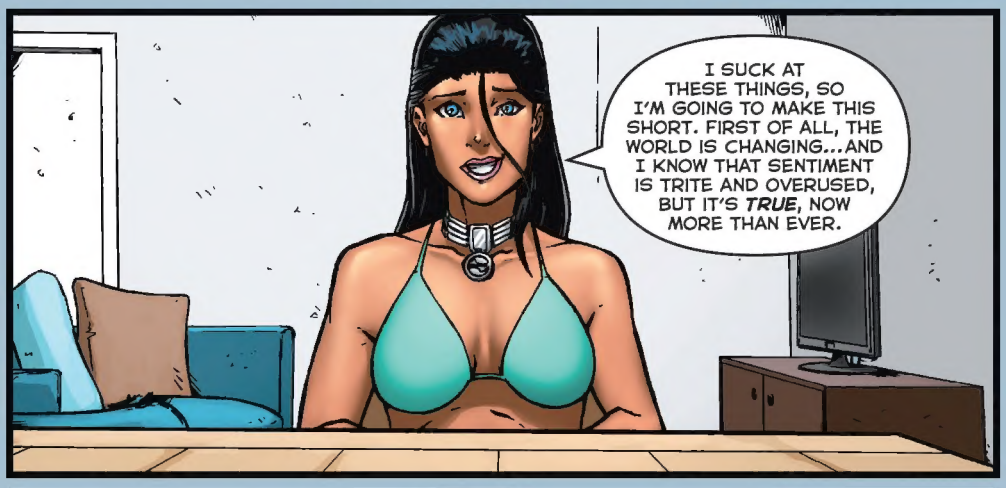

AT LEAST THEY DIDN'T MAKE YOU PAY FOR THE JET. YOU GOT OFF LIGHTLY.
SO, ARE YOU READY TO MOVE OUT OF MURIA FOR GOOD, COME BACK TO SOLID GROUND AND LIVE AMONG THE FILTHY LAND DWELLERS?

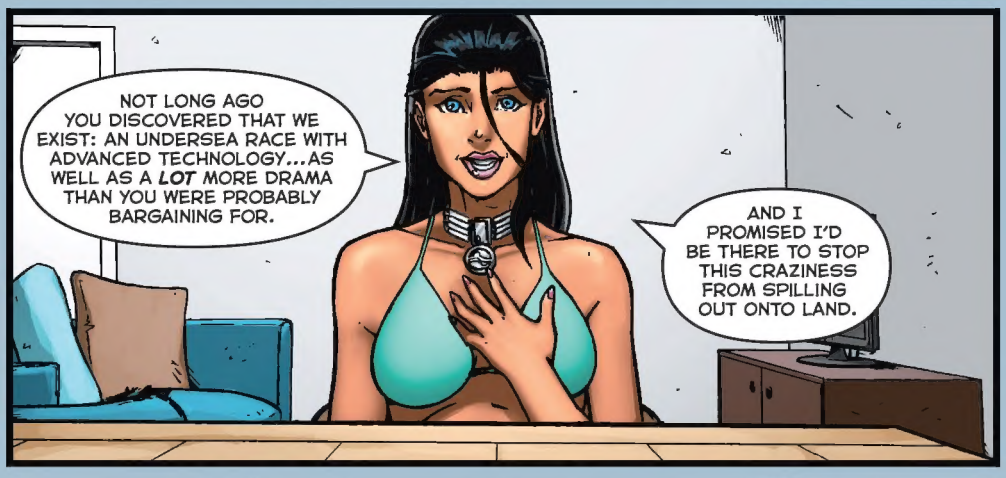

IT'S GOING TO BE AN ADJUSTMENT, BUT I'LL MANAGE. WITH SIPHON AND CANNON OUT OF CRYO-STASIS THEY CAN RE-BUILD THE COUNCIL WITHOUT ME.
BESIDES, I MADE A *VERY* TOUCHING ROYAL DECREE BEFORE I LEFT, RENOUNCING MY THRONE AND RETURNING FREEDOM TO MY PEOPLE...I HEAR THERE WASN'T A DRY EYE IN MURIA.
REGAL *AND* HUMBLE. I'M SURE YOU'LL BE MISSED.

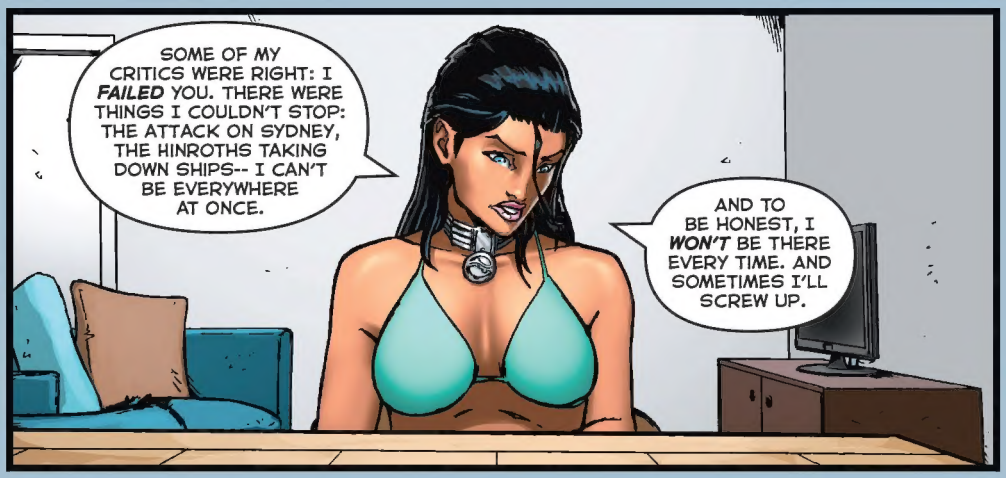
I GOT A DELIVERY HERE FOR A MISS ASPEN MATTHEWS? IS THAT ONE OF YOU?
YEAH, THAT WOULD BE M-- WHOA, WHAT THE HECK IS THAT DOING HERE?
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME. LET ME GUESS: COURTESY OF KRIS MACHINE GUN?
MISTER GUN WANTED YOU TO HAVE YOUR OWN LLAMA AS A THANK YOU FOR SAVING HIS.
WHAT THE HELL DOES SOMEONE DO WITH A PET LLAMA...IN A BEACH HOUSE?
NO IDEA, SIR. I DELIVER THE LLAMAS, I DON'T OFFER ADVICE ABOUT THEIR TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE.
FREAKING ROCK STARS. ODDLY, THIS ISN'T EVEN THE WEIRDEST THING THAT'S HAPPENED TO ME THIS WEEK.
SO WHAT NOW? I GUESS WE HAVE TO START TRACKING DOWN THE HINROTH BEFORE THEY DO ANY MORE DAMAGE.
MILITARY IS ALREADY ON IT...AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT SOME OF MY OLD NAVY BUDDIES TOLD ME. I'M SURE THEY COULD USE SOME HELP FROM SOMEONE AS UNIQUELY QUALIFIED AS YOU, THOUGH.

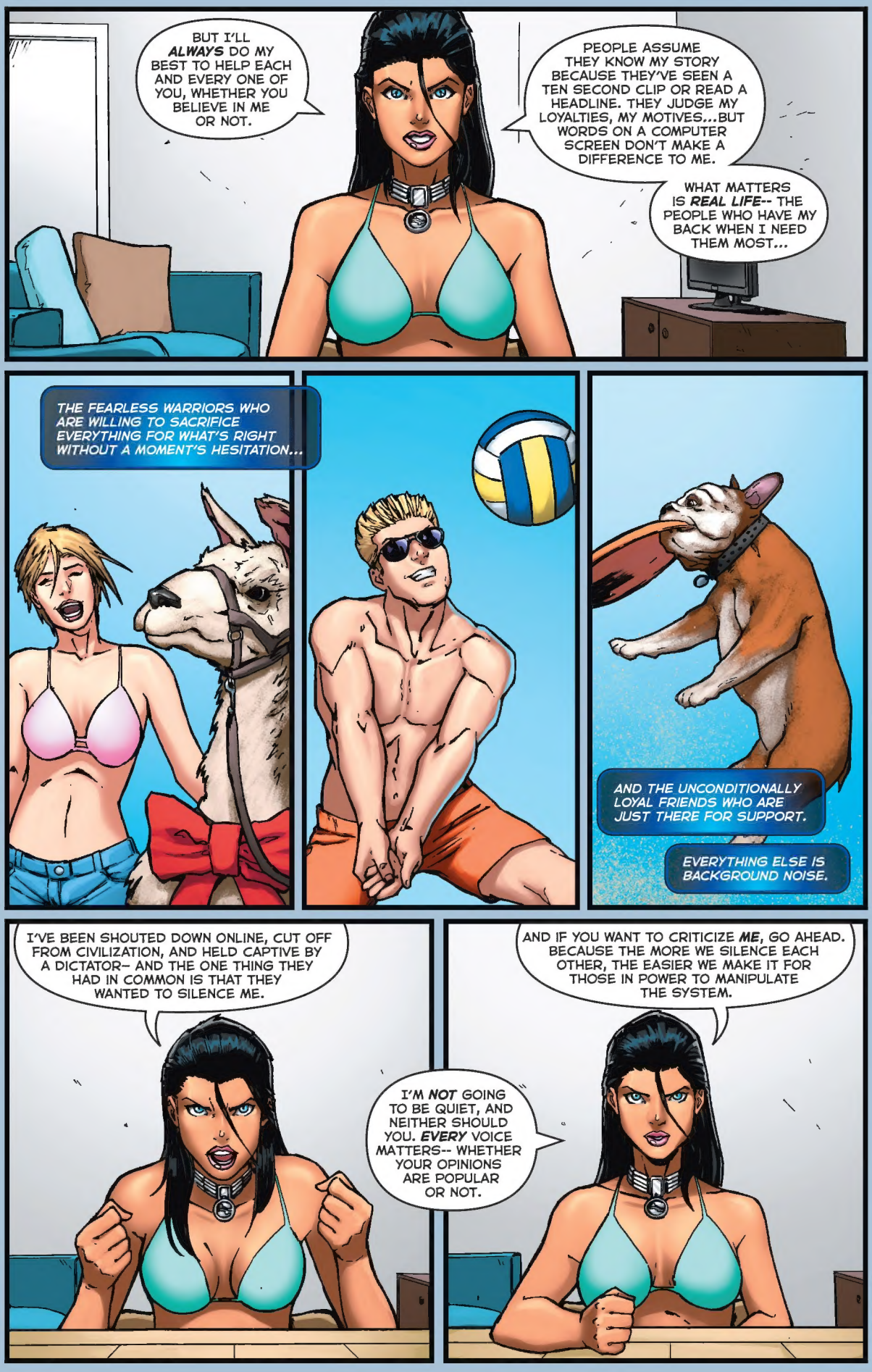
I'M MORE CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT VIRYDIS' NEXT MOVE IS GOING TO BE.
I WOULDN'T WORRY. WE'RE KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON HER.
SO YOU'RE GOING TO LET HER LIVE, AFTER EVERYTHING SHE'S DONE?
THAT'S NOT HOW MURIA WORKS, CHANCE... THE COUNCIL LEADS BY EXAMPLE– NOT WITH THE ARCHAIC 'EYE FOR AN EYE' DOCTRINE THAT VIRYDIS WANTED IN PLACE.
BESIDES, LETTING HER LIVE WILL BE THERAPEUTIC. SHE'S GOING TO HAVE A COUPLE HUNDRED YEARS TO THINK ABOUT WHAT SHE DID.
DOES THIS PLACE HAVE WI-FI HOOKED UP YET?
AS FAR AS I KNOW, YEAH.
WELL IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I NEED TO MAKE A QUICK VIDEO.

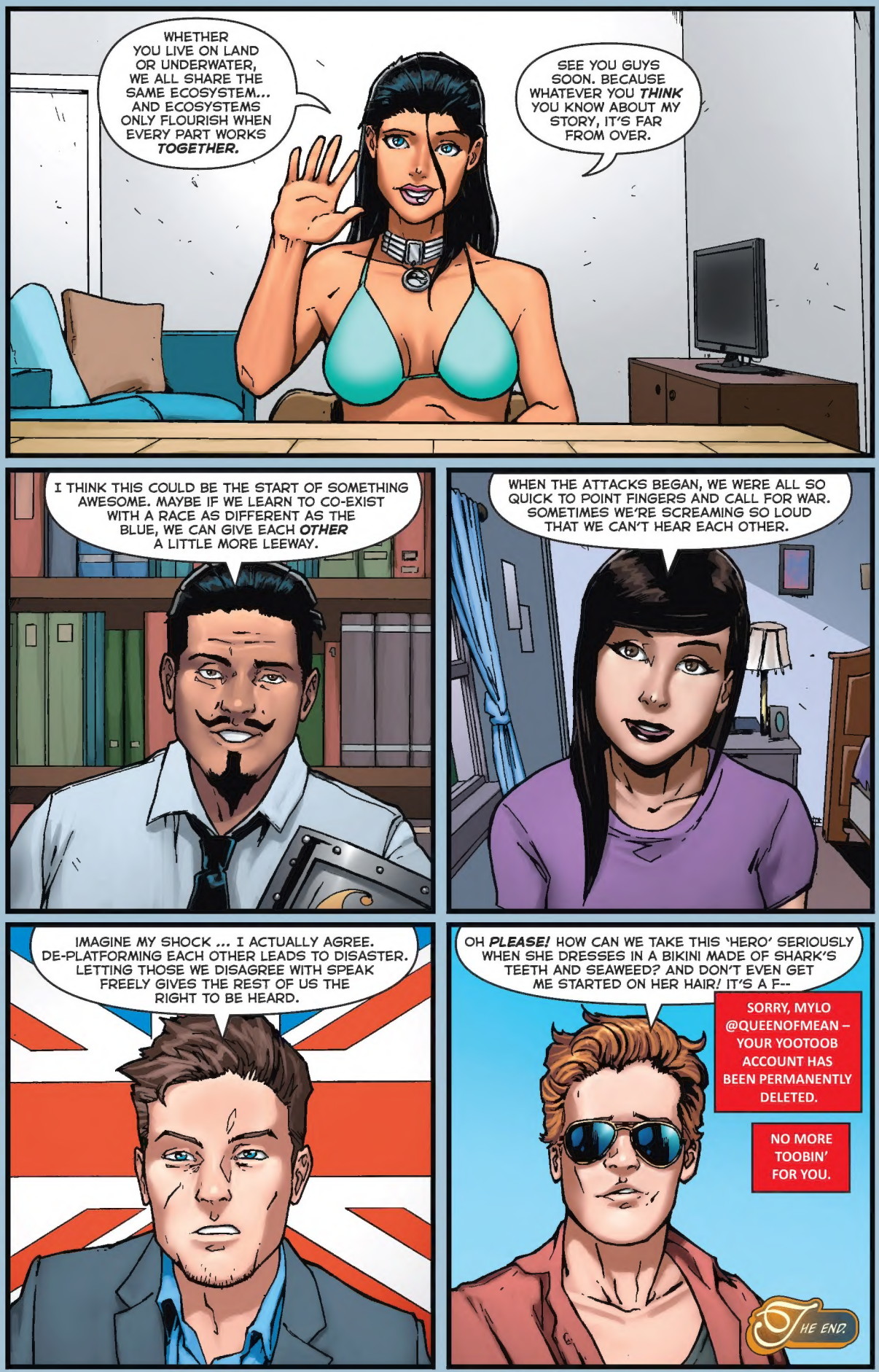

I'VE BEEN PUNCHED, CHOKED, STABBED, AND STRANGLED BY A SEA MONSTER, BUT SOMEHOW ***THIS*** IS ALWAYS THE MOST STRESSFUL PART OF MY JOB.
REC


I SUCK AT THESE THINGS, SO I'M GOING TO MAKE THIS SHORT. FIRST OF ALL, THE WORLD IS CHANGING...AND I KNOW THAT SENTIMENT IS TRITE AND OVERUSED, BUT IT'S ***TRUE***, NOW MORE THAN EVER.


NOT LONG AGO YOU DISCOVERED THAT WE EXIST: AN UNDERSEA RACE WITH ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY...AS WELL AS A ***LOT*** MORE DRAMA THAN YOU WERE PROBABLY BARGAINING FOR.
AND I PROMISED I'D BE THERE TO STOP THIS CRAZINESS FROM SPILLING OUT ONTO LAND.


SOME OF MY CRITICS WERE RIGHT: I ***FAILED*** YOU. THERE WERE THINGS I COULDN'T STOP: THE ATTACK ON SYDNEY, THE HINROTHS TAKING DOWN SHIPS-- I CAN'T BE EVERYWHERE AT ONCE.
AND TO BE HONEST, I ***WON'T*** BE THERE EVERY TIME. AND SOMETIMES I'LL SCREW UP.


BUT I'LL ALWAYS DO MY BEST TO HELP EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU, WHETHER YOU BELIEVE IN ME OR NOT.
PEOPLE ASSUME THEY KNOW MY STORY BECAUSE THEY'VE SEEN A TEN SECOND CLIP OR READ A HEADLINE. THEY JUDGE MY LOYALTIES, MY MOTIVES...BUT WORDS ON A COMPUTER SCREEN DON'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO ME.
WHAT MATTERS IS REAL LIFE-- THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE MY BACK WHEN I NEED THEM MOST...
THE FEARLESS WARRIORS WHO ARE WILLING TO SACRIFICE EVERYTHING FOR WHAT'S RIGHT WITHOUT A MOMENT'S HESITATION...
AND THE UNCONDITIONALLY LOYAL FRIENDS WHO ARE JUST THERE FOR SUPPORT.
EVERYTHING ELSE IS BACKGROUND NOISE.
I'VE BEEN SHOUTED DOWN ONLINE, CUT OFF FROM CIVILIZATION, AND HELD CAPTIVE BY A DICTATOR– AND THE ONE THING THEY HAD IN COMMON IS THAT THEY WANTED TO SILENCE ME.
I'M NOT GOING TO BE QUIET, AND NEITHER SHOULD YOU. EVERY VOICE MATTERS-- WHETHER YOUR OPINIONS ARE POPULAR OR NOT.
AND IF YOU WANT TO CRITICIZE ME, GO AHEAD. BECAUSE THE MORE WE SILENCE EACH OTHER, THE EASIER WE MAKE IT FOR THOSE IN POWER TO MANIPULATE THE SYSTEM.


WHETHER YOU LIVE ON LAND OR UNDERWATER, WE ALL SHARE THE SAME ECOSYSTEM... AND ECOSYSTEMS ONLY FLOURISH WHEN EVERY PART WORKS TOGETHER.
SEE YOU GUYS SOON. BECAUSE WHATEVER YOU THINK YOU KNOW ABOUT MY STORY, IT'S FAR FROM OVER.
I THINK THIS COULD BE THE START OF SOMETHING AWESOME. MAYBE IF WE LEARN TO CO-EXIST WITH A RACE AS DIFFERENT AS THE BLUE, WE CAN GIVE EACH OTHER A LITTLE MORE LEEWAY.
WHEN THE ATTACKS BEGAN, WE WERE ALL SO QUICK TO POINT FINGERS AND CALL FOR WAR. SOMETIMES WE'RE SCREAMING SO LOUD THAT WE CAN'T HEAR EACH OTHER.
IMAGINE MY SHOCK ... I ACTUALLY AGREE. DE-PLATFORMING EACH OTHER LEADS TO DISASTER. LETTING THOSE WE DISAGREE WITH SPEAK FREELY GIVES THE REST OF US THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD.
OH PLEASE! HOW CAN WE TAKE THIS 'HERO' SERIOUSLY WHEN SHE DRESSES IN A BIKINI MADE OF SHARK'S TEETH AND SEAWEED? AND DON'T EVEN GET ME STARTED ON HER HAIR! IT'S A F--
SORRY, MYLO @QUEENOFMEAN – YOUR YOOTOOB ACCOUNT HAS BEEN PERMANENTLY DELETED.
NO MORE TOOBIN' FOR YOU.
THE END.